



## Chris Stephens Appointed Interim CEO

During times of transition, a sturdy foundation is critical—and at its core, Coweta-Fayette EMC is rock solid. When inevitable changes occur, we are only as strong as our personnel: willing to serve, able to meet challenges, focused on our members.

One of these dedicated co-op people is former Vice President of Engineering and current Interim CEO Chris Stephens, who stepped up without question when his cooperative needed him.

At the end of October, Tony Sinclair informed the Board of Directors of his desire to resign as CEO in order to pursue other career opportunities.

“We are very appreciative of Tony’s tenure here,” said Jim Fulton, Coweta-Fayette EMC Board Chairman. “During that time, the cooperative has continued to grow and remains financially strong and competitive. We have just completed a review and update of our strategic plan and are well-positioned and prepared going forward. We wish Tony the best in all his endeavors.”

While the Board evaluates the future needs and leadership of the cooperative, they appointed Chris to his new position.

A native of Newnan, Chris graduated from Newnan High School and is an alumnus of The Georgia Institute of Technology, where he received a Bachelor’s of Electrical Engineering. He completed the NRECA Management Internship Program at the University of Wisconsin in 2010.

Chris has been with Coweta-Fayette EMC for 18 years, beginning his career with the co-op as the Supervisor of Engineering, prior to being promoted to Vice President of Engineering in 2009.

“I am humbled by this opportunity, and I have big shoes to fill,” he said. “Coweta-Fayette EMC is known for our exceptional customer service and reliability, as well as for being a great place to work. Cooperatives truly offer our members something special, and we will continue to focus on these values during this transition and in the future. I can’t wait to get started.”

Chris and his wife, Lori, reside in Coweta County. They have two children, Cole and Kendall.

*Interim CEO Stephens (left) discusses power line plans with Overhead Crew Chief Lanny Hammett (right).*



# A Co-op Tradition: Celebrating Our 67th Annual Meeting and Member Appreciation Day



Coweta-Fayette EMC hosted around 3,000 consumers and family members for a morning of food, fun and prizes at the 67th Annual Meeting and Member Appreciation Day Oct. 11 at cooperative headquarters in Palmetto.

This tradition is important to our co-op, as it is to other EMCs. Cooperatives are open to anyone who is able to use their services, which means any person who moves onto Coweta-Fayette lines is allowed membership. Annual meetings serve as a way for members to get to know the people who run their co-op, and it's where members are updated on business matters. Every year in the fall, we convene because we believe in the cooperative principle of Voluntary and Open Membership.

We also adhere to the notion of Democratic Member Control, which means members vote for a director who represents them on a board, which governs the co-op. Annual meetings serve as the forum for these elections.

This year, the event's carnival-like festivities featured midway games, arts and crafts, EMC information stations, prize drawings, bingo, health screenings by Piedmont Newnan and Piedmont Fayette Hospitals and toe-tapping music from Alvarado Road Show. For attending the event, members received an insulated EMC picnic tote upon registration.

Consumers of True Natural Gas were entered into the running for a gas grill, and Relyco Security Resources (an EMC subsidiary) held a drawing for a year's free security system monitoring. The grand prize for this year's meeting was a \$1,000 electric bill credit. In addition to these items, three lucky children received \$25 gift cards.

During the business meeting, James W. Fulton III, Ross Henry and Elwood Thompson were declared winners of the board election. The directors ran unopposed and will serve another three-year term.

After the election, business and service awards portion of the meeting, the prize drawings began. Congratulations to this year's grand prize winners:

- \$1,000 electric bill credit from Coweta-Fayette EMC – Frank McKenzie
- Gas grill from True Natural Gas – Paulette Johnson
- Security system monitoring for one year from Relyco Security – Don Galbo
- Survey drawing, \$100 electric bill credit – Kelly Garnigan

Everyone at Coweta-Fayette EMC had so much fun honoring co-op members this year, and we can't wait to make our 2015 event even better!



# Congratulations, Bright Ideas Winners!

*Thanks to Operation Round Up, 26 teachers in our service area received grants for special teaching projects.*



**Michelle Ward**  
Bennett's Mill Middle School  
Net my learning: Maximize  
my learning experiences!  
\$1,452.94



**Paula Marie Corley**  
White Oak Elementary  
School  
iRobot, Do You?  
\$1,500.00



**Kim Walden**  
Bennett's Mill Middle School  
Lessons for Life  
\$1,500.00



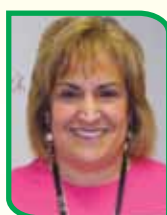
**Stephanie Steerman**  
Arnall Middle School  
iVision  
\$1,300.00



**Ellen P. Mitchell**  
Braelinn Elementary School  
ALL FIRED UP!  
\$434.00



**Heidi Johnson**  
Fayetteville Elementary  
School  
Through an Artists' Eyes  
\$749.04



**Gail Frantz**  
Peeples Elementary  
Up Close and Bacterial  
\$1,330.00



**Teresa Barr**  
Newnan Crossing Elementary  
Saving Cape Hatteras  
\$850.00



**Kelli Johnson Zachry**  
Brooks Elementary School  
What is the Weather  
Today?  
\$444.62



**Kathryn Baker**  
Huddleston Elementary  
School  
Big Ideas with Little Bits  
\$1,040.00



**Christy Todd**  
Rising Starr Middle School  
Soundbox  
\$1,500.00



**Drusilla R. Troescher**  
Fayette County High School  
Weather Station and Broad-  
cast  
\$1,370.00



**Lindsey Haralson**  
Brooks Elementary School  
Let's Boogie!  
\$640.00



**Stephanie Lemons**  
Kedron Elementary School  
Blinky Project  
\$700.00



**Kristi Goss**  
Robert J. Burch Elementary  
Junior Teaching Assistants  
\$1,500.00



**Kelly P Duggan**  
Newnan Crossing Elementary  
Engineering and Design bring  
Geometry to Life!  
\$1,500.00



**Amy Beth Steward**  
Central Educational Center  
Classy Comics  
\$500.00



**Tammy Condrey Mercure**  
Landmark Christian School  
Biotechnology: Restriction  
Enzyme Analysis of DNA  
\$1,500.00



**Martha B. Trisler**  
Sandy Creek High School  
Digital Microscopy to  
Enhance Learning  
\$1,446.75



**Dan S. Gant**  
Starr's Mill High School  
Who Done It - Bones Never  
Lie  
\$1,486.00



**John Allen Vaughn**  
Coweta Charter and  
Career Academy  
Old Fashioned Maps  
\$725.00



**Kristen Brady**  
Lee Middle School  
Smart Pens = Smart  
Students  
\$1,035.95



**Kim Anne Marshall**  
Sandy Creek High School  
eBook Reference Shelf  
\$1,500.00



**Susan J. Kennedy**  
Willis Road Elementary  
Build a Better Writer  
\$963.43



# Deck the Halls with Safety in Mind

- 💡 If you put up a live tree, buy one with fresh, green needles. If the greenery isn't fresh, it can lead to a greater fire risk. Keep the tree's base holder filled with water at all times – even if you have to water it more than once a day.
- 💡 Choose a spot for your tree that's at least three feet clear of fireplaces and other heat sources.
- 💡 String lights that have the Underwriters Laboratory mark. It means that engineers have tested samples of lights for risk of fire, electric shock and other hazards.
- 💡 Plug no more than three strands of lights together or into the same outlet. Follow the manufacturer's instructions when using electrical decorations.
- 💡 Turn off decorations and lights before leaving the house or going to bed.
- 💡 Before you plug in last year's lights, inspect them for cracked sockets, frayed, loose or bare wires and loose connections.
- 💡 If you have to replace a light bulb or fuse on a strand of lights, unplug it first.
- 💡 Replace faulty light strands and electrical decorations rather than trying to repair them.
- 💡 Keep lights and electrical decorations out of the reach of children and pets. They can cause a shock or fire if misused.
- 💡 Some lights are designed for indoor use only. Check yours before hanging them outdoors.

***Warmest Wishes for a Safe and  
Wonderful Holiday Season***



Chris Stephens, Interim President and CEO  
C. Bradford Sears, Jr., Attorney  
Douglas B. Warner, Attorney

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

James W. Fulton, III, Chairman  
Therol Brown, Vice Chairman  
J. Neal Shepard, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer  
W. L. Clements  
Ross Henry  
Alice J. Mallory  
K. M. Spaller  
Elwood Thompson  
Mildred A. Winkles

**POWER**lines

Editor: Mary Ann Bell  
807 Collinsworth Road, Palmetto, GA 30268  
(770) 502-0226

**Coweta-Fayette EMC is an equal opportunity  
provider and employer/M/F/V/D.**



**Coweta-Fayette**

**770-502-0226**  
**www.utility.org**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



# Members with Special Medical Needs Urged to Prepare NOW for Winter Weather

In Georgia, we experience a variety of weather catastrophes. During the winter months, however, ice and snow events are the most feared. All storms can cause extended power outages, but it's especially important to have a plan to stay warm when it's cold.

Before an outage occurs, prepare your home and family. Having a plan and emergency supplies on hand can help you better weather the storm. When there is a power disruption, Coweta-Fayette EMC crews respond immediately and work as quickly as possible to restore your service.

In preparing for winter weather, people with special medical needs have extra concerns. Please read the following tips compiled by the Department of Health and the American Red Cross:

**Medications**

- Always have at least a three-day supply of all medications
- Store medications in one location in original containers
- Have a list of all medications, dose, frequency and the name of the prescribing doctor

**Medical Supplies**

- If using medical supplies like bandages, colostomy bags or syringes, have an extra three-day supply available
- Know if an infusion pump has battery backup and how long it would last in an emergency
- Ask a home care provider about manual infusion techniques in case of an outage
- Have written operating instructions attached to all equipment

**Oxygen and Breathing Equipment**

- If using oxygen, have an emergency supply of three days or more
- Oxygen tanks should be securely braced so they do not fall over.
- If using breathing equipment, have a three-day supply or more of tubing, solutions, medications, etc.

**Electrically  
Powered Medical  
Equipment**

- For all medical equipment requiring electrical power, such as beds, breathing equipment or infusion pumps, check with the medical supply company and get information regarding a back-up power source, such as a battery or generator.
- Check with the EMC to ensure the emergency generator is correctly installed.

**People Who Can Help**

An important part of being prepared for winter storms is planning with family, friends and neighbors. Know who could walk over to assist if other means of transportation are unavailable.

- Discuss disaster plans with a home healthcare provider.
- Ask the local fire department if they keep a list of people with special medical needs.
- Keep a list of people who can help and their contact information:
  - Family or friends
  - Neighbors
  - Hospital
  - Medical suppliers
  - Doctor/homecare provider
  - Pharmacy

