



Counting Our Blessings as We Look to 2014

It is hard to believe that Christmas and the holiday season are here. The stores are bustling with shoppers, and families are planning those delicious dinners and happy festivities with loved ones and friends. As a kid, I treasured the Christmas holidays and the opportunity to see and visit with family members at my grandparents' house.

I am always inspired at Christmas by the outpouring of care and generosity exhibited by local community members. Our cooperative Benevolent Committee members and employees participate in several community service projects around the holidays to assist those in need in our service area. It is a time to reflect on all the many blessings that have been bestowed upon us and to give back to those less fortunate.

One of the greatest blessings of all in our service area is the quality education system we have in place and the extraordinary and talented teachers that inspire and motivate our children to achieve their maximum potential.

Your cooperative's Operation Round Up program funds an exceptional initiative called "Bright Ideas." Teachers submit grant applications to our Trust Board for a multitude of innovative and inspirational projects. I am amazed at the creativity that goes into the funding requests and the magnificent results when student projects are completed. The opportunity for teachers and students to explore unique ideas is invaluable. I am always left in awe of the caliber of students and educators and their quest to seek out knowledge.

I have heard some people say they are worried about the leadership that will arise in the future. When I see the accomplishments in the Bright Ideas initiative and talk to students who participate in our Washington Youth Tour leadership program, there is no doubt that the strong, inspirational leaders of the future will come out of local school systems to lead us into a brilliant tomorrow.

As always, we are ever thankful for the opportunity to serve our members in the most efficient manner possible. During 2013, co-op employees have done an excellent job, and I am extremely

proud of their dedication to delivering exceptional customer service. Each year, the greatest gift I could receive as your President/CEO is for our employees to work safely and stay healthy so they can be there when you need them.

Looking forward to the coming year, the challenges are already beginning to show on the horizon. For instance, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

is still moving steadily toward heavy-handed environmental regulations that will negatively impact our Members' rates by requiring additional unnecessary standards. The EPA continues to raise the regulatory bar unchecked and without considering the economic consequences.

In 2014, cooperatives in Georgia and the rest of the U.S. will be making sure all of our members are educated on the threats to their co-op from both regulatory and legislative bodies. We plan to keep you knowledgeable of state and national issues that could threaten the affordable, dependable power your cooperative proudly supplies. You have an excellent cooperative with a reliable power generation portfolio and highly skilled employees dedicated to our Members.

We are proud of the way we serve you now, and we definitely do not think intervention by the EPA or other state/federal agencies will be in any way beneficial to our Members. I think we have witnessed just recently what happens when the federal government tries to do what free enterprise businesses already do well.

For the Team,

Anthony H. Sinclair "Tony"
Anthony H. Sinclair "Tony"



Another Sunny and Successful Annual Meeting and Member Appreciation Day

Coweta-Fayette EMC hosted over 2,500 consumers and family members for a morning of food, fun and prizes at the 66th Annual Meeting and Member Appreciation Day recently at cooperative headquarters in Palmetto.

In CEO Anthony “Tony” Sinclair’s speech, he said the EMC strives to provide the dependable energy and services members need at a reasonable cost. “We aim to keep your family comfortable and safe in your homes, and we offer the power needed for businesses and industries to create jobs and prosperity,” he said. “You can rest assured that when times are tough and the weather is at its worst, our employees will be at their best serving you.”

The co-op’s carnival-like festivities featured midway games, arts and crafts, EMC information stations, prize drawings, health screenings by Piedmont Newnan and Piedmont Fayette Hospitals and toe-tapping music from Texas-based band Alvarado Road Show. For attending the event, members received a large, vented, wind-proof EMC umbrella upon registration.

During the business meeting, Therol Brown, K.M. Spaller and J. Neal Shepard, Jr. were declared winners of the board election. The directors ran unopposed and will serve another three-year term. Proposed bylaw changes regarding member voting – mail-in balloting, online options and earlier voting in person – were also approved.

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 – Jaye Tomlinson
- Gas grill from True Natural Gas – Bobby Britt
- Security system monitoring for one year from Relyco Security – James Wainscott
- Children’s drawing, \$50 gift card – Jonah Roland
- Survey drawing, \$100 electric bill credit – Deborah Kimbrell

Everyone at Coweta-Fayette EMC – your neighbors! – had so much fun honoring co-op

members this year, and we can’t wait to make our 2014 event even better.



Congratulations, Bright Ideas Winners!

Every year, Coweta-Fayette EMC's Operation Round Up program gives educators in our service area the opportunity to apply for grants dedicated to special teaching projects not often available in tightly-budgeted school systems. Here are the 2013 Bright Ideas winners – congratulations to these teachers for caring about students, showing initiative and creating innovative concepts!



Beverly Kelly
Fayette County High
"Congress in the Classroom"
\$750



Erin Smith and Suzanne Marshall
Northgate High
"Plant and Landscape Therapy"
\$670



Mitch Bailey
East Coweta Middle
"Physics of Flight"
\$1,080



Adele Moore
Cleveland Elementary
"Circuit Mania"
\$619.23



Joseph Perrotta
Starr's Mill High
"Energy Transformations"
\$700



Erica Spencer
Peebles Elementary
"Articulation, Motor Planning, Language and Speech Sensory Disorders"
\$798.55



Johnny Holloway
Evans Middle
"Chorus Spring Show"
\$1,500



Brandon Kendall
Starr's Mill High
"Upfront Magazine for students' speech and debate topics"
\$500



Janey Allen
Moreland Elementary
"Communication Inspiration"
\$1,304.79



Michelle McClendon
Evans Middle
"Energy and Engineering"
\$1,500.



Diane Calsbeek
Landmark Christian
"I Get a Charge Out of You"
\$1,500



Misty Wilson
Lee Middle
"The Robertsons Go to Ancient China"
\$1,500



Bob Ramseur
Newnan High
"Green Energy Stage Lighting"
\$1,500



Donnie Bates and SueAnn Jensen
LaFayette Educational Center
"Retail Training Center"
\$1,500



Sally Cavanaugh
Lee Middle
"iCSI, Forensics for math and science"
\$1,498.40



Carole Ann Toole
Newnan High
"Storyboard, Sequential Art, and Creative Art Applications"
\$1,500



Kristi Lanave
East Coweta High
"Inquiry Based Labs"
\$1,500



Mike Roberts
Heard County Middle
"The House Championship"
\$1,500



Sally Grumbles
Northgate High
"Let's Finally Talk, iPad communications for special ed students"
\$1,494



Lisa Quick
East Coweta High
"Project ACHIEVE"
\$1,295



Rebecca Springfield
Elm Street Elementary
"Improving Performance and Differentiating for Success"
\$1,493



Orla Thomas
Northgate High
"STEM Program Technology Resources"
\$1,405.30



Martha Milam
East Coweta High
"Next Generation of Scientists and Engineers"
\$1,498



Tom Barnett
Central Education Center
"Let Freedom Ring, honoring past students in the military"
\$1,500



Helpful Safety Hints for the Holidays

Amid the holiday hustle and bustle, remembering to stay safe and save energy may not be at the top of your list. Follow these helpful hints to keep electrical safety a priority as you celebrate with loved ones.

- Nearly every household uses extra electricity during the holidays—for cooking, decorating and heating the house to everyone’s satisfaction. Take extra care to use it safely, and to ask family members and house guests to do the same.
- One of the riskiest holiday behaviors is overloading your electrical outlets. Plugging strand after strand of outdoor or tree lights together, plugging them into an extension cord and plugging that into an outlet will overload the outlet.
- Plugging multiple strands of cords into a power strip does not add any juice to the electrical circuit that powers the outlet you plug the strip into.
- Check decorative lights for damaged cords, plugs and sockets. Replace anything that’s frayed, cracked or broken. Buy cords that are certified by Underwriters Laboratories; look for the UL symbol on the package.
- Don’t run cords under rugs, carpets or baseboards.
- When you put up outdoor decorations, avoid stringing lights in trees near power lines. Fasten outdoor lights securely with insulated staples; never nails or tacks.
- Keep electric lights away from decorative metal trees.
- Keep all light strings out of reach of small children and pets.

Anthony H. Sinclair, President and CEO
C. Bradford Sears, Jr., Attorney
Douglas B. Warner, Attorney

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East Coweta High School Wins Cooperative Spirit Sportsmanship Award

Fairness and mutual respect are just two of the character-building qualities that represent good sportsmanship. To celebrate these qualities, Coweta-Fayette EMC recently honored East Coweta High School in Sharpsburg with the 2013 Georgia High School Association's (GHSA's) Cooperative Spirit Sportsmanship Award.

Mary Ann Bell, Coweta-Fayette EMC's Vice President of Marketing, presented the sportsmanship trophy—which honors GHSA member schools that exhibited outstanding sportsmanship during the 2012-2013 school year—to staff, coaches and athletes at the Regional 3 AAAAAA high school October 31.

"We are thrilled to present the Cooperative Spirit Sportsmanship Award to East Coweta High School," said Bell. "ECHS students, spectators and teammates have continually exhibited good sportsmanship and character, both on the field and in the stands."

Introduced in 2006 and sponsored by Georgia's electric cooperatives and the GHSA, the Cooperative Spirit Award promotes sportsmanship at competitive events and honors the conduct of not only student



EMC Marketing VP Mary Ann Bell presents the Cooperative Spirit Sportsmanship Award to East Coweta High School Athletic Director and Assistant Principal Ken Kesselring (right) and Principal Evan Horton.

athletes, but also that of fellow students, parents, coaches and spectators, making the award a tribute to the entire school community.

"Good sportsmanship is one of the most important principles a person can have, both in life and in sports," said Bell. "And it definitely falls in line with cooperative values. Coweta-Fayette EMC is proud to support this teamwork-centered initiative."

SPIRIT