

POWERLINES

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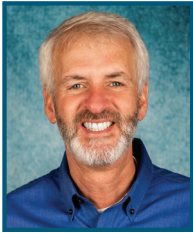
JULY 2026



Coweta-Fayette



Powering Possibility Through Cooperation



Chris Stephens
CEO

Electricity is something most of us rarely have to think about. We flip a switch, charge a phone, prepare a meal or turn on an air conditioner with the confidence that the power will be there.

For families in many remote communities around the world, that expectation does not yet exist.

That is why I am proud that Coweta-Fayette EMC has once again joined fellow electric cooperatives in helping bring safe, reliable electricity—and the opportunities that come with it—to families who might otherwise remain without power.

In June, Coweta-Fayette EMC linemen Zack Madaris, Hunter Browning and Steven Robinson traveled to Guadalupe, Ixcán, Guatemala, where they joined 11 linemen from neighboring Georgia electric cooperatives for an international electrification project. Working alongside the local municipal electric utility, the team constructed new distribution lines, installed transformers and completed the service connections and internal wiring needed to bring electricity to more than 65 homes.

Their work is a powerful example of one of the principles that has guided electric cooperatives since their beginning: Cooperation Among Cooperatives.

Here at home, that cooperation is evident when crews travel across county or state lines to help restore power following a hurricane, tornado or other major outage. International electrification projects carry that same spirit even farther. Cooperatives share their people, knowledge, equipment and resources to improve the quality of life in communities well beyond their own service territories.



This year's project also continues a mission that our employees, business partners and supporters have helped sustain for more than two decades through the "Take Aim at Progress" Sporting Clay Charity Event.

Since 2005, volunteers and partners have helped construct essential electric infrastructure in remote areas of Costa Rica, Guatemala and Bolivia. These projects have brought electricity to more than 700 homes, nearly 3,000 people and several schools.

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Powering Possibility Continued...

The numbers are impressive, but the real impact is much greater than miles of line or the number of poles and transformers installed.

Electricity can provide light for children to study after dark. It can support refrigeration, communication, small businesses and community services. It can make homes safer and create opportunities that did not exist before. Most importantly, it gives families and communities new possibilities for their future.

This is not a one-time donation or a temporary solution. It is an investment in infrastructure that can continue serving a community for years to come.

I am grateful to Zack, Hunter and Steven for volunteering their skills and representing Coweta-Fayette EMC so well. I am also thankful for the coworkers, families, sponsors, participants and community partners who make projects like this possible. Although only a few individuals make the journey, many people play a role in helping the mission succeed.

Electric cooperatives were created because people worked together to bring power to places others were unwilling or unable to serve. That history gives us a special connection to communities that are still waiting for electricity today.

By sharing what we have learned and working alongside our cooperative partners, we are helping carry that original mission forward.

That is cooperation in its truest form—and another way we are working together toward a shared vision for a better life.



From Georgia to Guatemala

For two weeks, Coweta-Fayette EMC linemen Zack Madaris, Hunter Browning and Steven Robinson traded their familiar service territory for the remote community of Guadalupe, Ixcán, Guatemala.

Working with 11 other Georgia cooperative linemen, they helped build the electric infrastructure needed to bring power to more than 65 homes—but the work involved much more than poles, wire and transformers.

Hear directly from our linemen about the people they met, the challenges they faced and the moment a community experienced the possibilities electricity can bring.

Listen to the newest episode of the In the Loop podcast to hear their journey.



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