



The GreyStone Connection

THE POWER OF MEMBER CONNECTIONS



A LOOK INSIDE: **p. 20B** SELF-SERVICE OFFERS WINNING OPPORTUNITY

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Miller's Minute

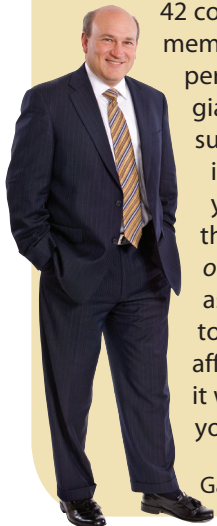
Happy New Year! Did you find electricity-powered presents under your tree this Christmas? When I take time to think about it, I am amazed at the number of items in my home and office that run on electricity. We could not have imagined all these gadgets 20 years ago!

I think it was General Electric that used to say, "We bring good things to life." In truth, they had no idea how many of those "good things" were around the corner! Electricity is a great value for your money. For a little more than \$4 per day, the cost of a sandwich, you can power your home and those electrical items for 24 hours.

GreyStone's rates are fifth lowest in Georgia among 42 co-ops. Our average member pays \$40 less per month than a Georgia Power customer in summer, and \$15 less in winter! We need your help to keep it that way. Go to www.ourenergy.coop and ask your congressman to keep your rates affordable. We can't do it without you. Thank you.

- Gary

Gary Miller, President/CEO



Summer trips impact youth for over half a century

For the past 55 years, students have been recognized by electric cooperatives for their exemplary academic achievements. Cooperatives around the country have offered award-winning high school students a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see our nation's capital through different eyes as a Washington Youth Tour (WYT) delegate.

Last spring, 52 top high school juniors in the GreyStone service area accepted the challenge to test for a chance to become a WYT delegate and to travel to Washington, D.C. for a weeklong, all-expenses-paid trip, as well as the opportunity to rediscover themselves. This unique trip provides an invaluable leadership experience.

Delegates not only learn about the electric cooperative movement, but also about American history and how their government works. These students are able to witness our country's history firsthand as they visit national landmarks, tour the nation's capital and museums, and even have a chance to talk to their local congressman.

"Visiting these places was astonishing, not only

because of their fame and importance, but because of their value to our country. It was as if every day I was able to behold the pride, honor and integrity of the United States of America, personified," explains Sarah Harris, one of the six 2012 GreyStone Power delegates.

In 1957, Sen. Lyndon Johnson expressed his desire to attendees at the NRECA Annual Meeting that he wished to "send youngsters to the national capital where they can actually see what the flag stands for and represents."

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GreyStone's 2012 delegates, l-r: Jessica Hundly, Nicole Kennard, Agbor Ogork, Ruthie Phillips, Maegan Hall and Sarah Harris.

WYT delegates

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Since that speech, cooperatives from across the nation have jumped on board. This year, more than 1,500 students from 43 states attended this year's event. Maegan Hall and Nicole Kennard of North Paulding High School, Sarah Harris and Ruthie Phillips of Hiram High School, Jessica Hundly of Douglas County High School and Agbor Ogork of New Manchester High School were among the 105 students representing Georgia.

Having heard firsthand about the opportunity from her brother Chris, who happened to be a 2011 GreyStone WYT delegate, Nicole Kennard studied hard so she could follow in her brother's footsteps. "They told me this was a life-changing experience. But I now find it more than even that. I find it to be a life-appreciating experience," shares delegate Nicole.

GreyStone has participated in the WYT program for 48 years. Each year, GreyStone representatives visit participating schools within the service area and present the program to the



counselors and the students they have selected as school leaders. Students are given study materials, then are asked to come and test on that material.

"The highest scores win! It's a simple, but hard process. The students selected by their counselors are the 'cream of the crop' from their schools and because of the unique opportunity before them, we want to offer them a challenge. One that they know they have worked hard to earn," says GreyStone Public Relations and Communications Coordinator Ashley Kramer.

"The delegates who earn the WYT

trip have a huge opportunity for developing their leadership potential. I love seeing the positive impact that the Youth Tour has on students. They often finish the tour with a new appreciation for our government and history, and have a new outlook on their career goals."

Today, WYT alumni, prospective participants and other interested parties can visit the Youth Tour website, www.youthtour.coop, to learn about its history or reconnect with fellow WYT alumni.

For information, contact your school counselor or call 770-370-2600.

Use self-service and be eligible to WIN BIG!

Saving time and money is not only important to you, but for us as well. With convenient self-service options that are easy-to-use and available 24/7, you can spend more time doing the things that you love to do.

As an added incentive for you to switch to self-service, we will reward four lucky members in the form of a bill cred-

it ranging from \$50 to a Grand Prize of a 'bill-free' month (up to \$400)!

To be eligible, simply use any combination of the specified self-service options for at least three consecutive months between Dec.

1, 2012, through April 30, 2013, and your account will be included in a random drawing which will be held in early May.

In order for the contest to remain fair for all members using self-service, special guidelines must be followed during the promotional period, so please visit www.greystonepower.com for detailed

eligibility requirements or to register for online services.

Let our self-service options work for you by giving you back the gift of time and the opportunity to win a month's energy on us!



ALERT! New Call Center hours go 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday - Friday, beginning Jan. 2, 2013.



Win BIG by using self-service options to manage your account.

Do It Yourself

Ask the Expert

Do you feel empowered when you are able to do things for yourself? If you are like me, the accomplishment motivates me to want to do more, and when I see my power bill start to decrease, I get even more motivated!

Now it's your turn. By completing a few simple tasks, you too can make a difference in your home and decrease your energy use. We have a few timely and helpful hints to help you get started this winter:

Filters

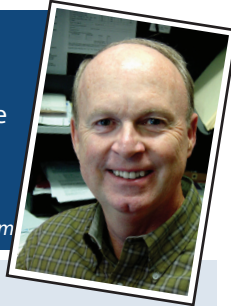
Dirty or clogged filters can severely increase energy costs and decrease comfort levels in the home by restricting air velocity, increasing distribution temperatures, and by gumming up evaporator coils, fan blades and fan assemblies. It is also important to remember that dirty or clogged filters can damage equipment and it is the number one cause of compressor failure. To increase your indoor air quality, keep your filter clean!

Thermostat setting

Setting your thermostat back several degrees at night or when you are away will save energy dollars. If you have a heat pump, it is recommended that your winter setbacks be no more than 2 to 3 degrees.



Mark your calendar for our next EE101 on April 9! For more info, or to register, call 770-370-2252. www.greystonepower.com



Rudy Echols
Energy Services Manager

Space heaters

Remember to keep children, pets and flammable items at least three feet from the space heater. Don't use heaters on uneven surfaces, near foot traffic or in children's rooms. Never leave a heater on unattended or while you are sleeping.

For more energy saving tips, visit www.togetherwesave.com.

DIY top three

1. The winter season should begin with a clean furnace filter. Remember to check your filter monthly during the heating season and replace when dirty.
2. A winter thermostat setting of 68 or lower is recommended. Each degree setting higher can result in three to five percent more in energy costs.
3. Electric space heaters are not recommended for use as the primary heating source of your home as they have the potential to use significant energy dollars. They are most effective when used as supplemental heat or for heating small areas of the home.

I CHANGED MY AIR FILTER. AND MY WARDROBE.



Saving money on my electric bill seemed like a good enough reason to update my closet. Find out what you can do at TogetherWeSave.com.



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POWER CORPORATION
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

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Fallen hero honored

There's no denying that losing a loved one is devastating. It's even harder when that loved one is on the other side of the world fighting for freedom and there are no opportunities for goodbyes. This was the case for U.S. Marine Lance Cpl. Scott Harper, who was killed in Afghanistan when his unit is believed to have been ambushed in October 2011.

In early November 2012, a year after the attack, friends and family members were touched when a portion of Douglas Boule-

vard was given an honorary designation declaring it Scott Harper Memorial Boulevard.

Harper's entire family was on hand for the humbling event, in addition to members of the Douglas County Board of Commissioners and the Douglasville City Council, Mayor Harvey Persons, District Attorney David McDade and the Patriot Guard Riders.

Tom Worthan, Douglas County Board of Commissioners chairman, addresses a somber crowd.



Pinterest Pick

CLASSIC CHICKEN POT PIE

Ingredients:

Crust

1 box Pillsbury® refrigerated pie crusts, softened as directed on box

Filling

1/3 cup butter or margarine
1/3 cup chopped onion
1/3 cup all-purpose flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper
1-3/4 cups Progresso® chicken broth (from 32-oz carton)
1/2 cup milk

2-1/2 cups shredded cooked chicken or turkey
2 cups Green Giant® Valley Fresh Steamers™ frozen mixed vegetables, thawed

Step 1: Heat oven to 425°F. Make pie crusts as directed on box for Two-Crust Pie using 9-inch glass pie pan.

Step 2: In 2-quart saucepan, melt butter over medium heat. Add onion; cook 2 minutes, stirring frequently, until tender. Stir in flour, salt and pepper until well blended. Gradually stir in broth and milk, cooking and stirring until bubbly and thickened.

Step 3: Stir in chicken and mixed vegetables. Remove from heat. Spoon chicken mixture into crust-lined pan. Top with second crust;



seal edge and flute. Cut slits in several places in top crust.

Step 4: Bake 30 to 40 minutes or until crust is golden brown. During last 15 to 20 minutes of baking, cover crust edge with strips of foil to prevent excessive browning. Let stand five minutes before serving.

For more fabulous recipes, visit us at pinterest.com/greystonepower.

RANDOM
Acts Community Challenge

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PLAY TODAY!

facebook.com/greystonepower

Conduct a fire drill for your family and earn 25 points!