

October 2016

CEMC

# georgia<sup>®</sup>

M A G A Z I N E

**solar**  
*made*  
**easy**

GREYSTONE POWER IS REMOVING  
BARRIERS TO SOLAR POWER



**GREYSTONE**  
COOPERATIVE SOLAR

RIDGE  
ROAD

How do I sign up?  
page F

How much does it  
cost? page F

Capture your  
share of the sun  
page A



**GREYSTONE**  
POWER CORPORATION  
*An Electric Membership Corporation*



# The GreyStone Connection

THE POWER OF MEMBER CONNECTIONS

A LOOK INSIDE: **p. C** JOIN US FOR OUR 79TH ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS VOLUME 3 • NUMBER 3 • OCTOBER 2016

## Miller's Minute

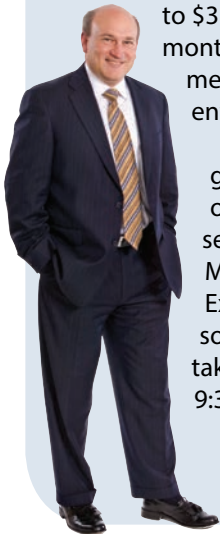
The Cooperative Solar sign-up time has arrived! This is a historic time in the 80-year history of GreyStone. We are very excited to offer you solar power to be generated at our own solar farm being constructed in Paulding County. Sign up for our waiting list Saturday, Oct. 8, at our Annual Meeting!

I see great potential in this renewable step forward for GreyStone and its members. Now, you can have your own share of the sun! Each block costs \$25 per month with a limit of two per member. As your blocks generate power, the majority of your investment will be returned to you as a credit on your bill. Our estimate is a participating member will actually pay only about \$2.25 to \$3 more per block per month, while your investment goes to help our environment.

Be first in line to get solar power without the hassles! We'll see you at the Annual Meeting in the Solar Expo. Informational solar seminars will take place at 8:30 and 9:30 a.m.

*- Gary*

Gary Miller,  
President/CEO



## Have you missed out on 20 years of savings? Join GEMC FCU!

Twenty years ago, in January, a historic letter appeared in the mailboxes of every GreyStone Power member, offering you membership in a full service credit union. By August of 1996, GEMC Federal Credit Union (GEMC FCU) had become the only credit union for Georgia co-op members providing in-house service at both the Douglasville and Dallas offices.

"It was an exciting time for us," says GreyStone President/CEO Gary Miller. "It was a popular idea that caught on fast. Members came by to pay their electric bill and joined the credit union at the same time."

GEMC FCU has steadily grown, yet there are still those who don't realize that the credit union is open to their

families, their businesses, even their businesses' employees.

"Today we proudly serve 12,685 members, with over 4,500 of those served because they are GreyStone members who realize that they will receive the same kind of friendly service from the credit union they receive from GreyStone," says GEMC FCU President Denise Swan.

The credit union offers helpful financial seminars, car loans, home equity loans, free or low-cost checking, savings accounts, CDs, a car buying service and many other services.

"In order to serve our members better, we are opening up cashier locations inside our Douglasville credit union office, ready for business now.

(Continued on page C)



Dallas GEMC FCU staff

# Celebrating 20 great years!



Douglasville GEMC FCU staff

Photo Credit: Robb Maag

# Credit Union

(continued from page A)

We want to be your one-stop shop for financial services," says Swan.

"Many people don't know the advantages of belonging to a credit union," says Mike Culbertson, GEMC FCU VP branch strategies. "Because we are member-owned, we can offer higher savings rates and lower loan rates. We are not here to make a profit. We are here to serve you," he says.

"Our members are not just numbers. They are our members, just like they are members of GreyStone."

"It's a tremendous thing we offer our members," says Miller. "It gives them another tangible value connected with their GreyStone membership. And is it successful? I would say a track record of 20 years answers that question."

If you haven't joined the credit union yet, come by and tell them happy birthday! Join the credit union and watch your savings grow!



Douglasville GEMC FCU staff

# You're invited!

GreyStone members and their families are invited to join us for a free morning of entertainment and fun activities at our Annual Meeting of Members on Saturday, Oct. 8, beginning at 8 a.m. The event will be held at GreyStone's headquarters, located at 4040 Bankhead Highway in Douglasville.

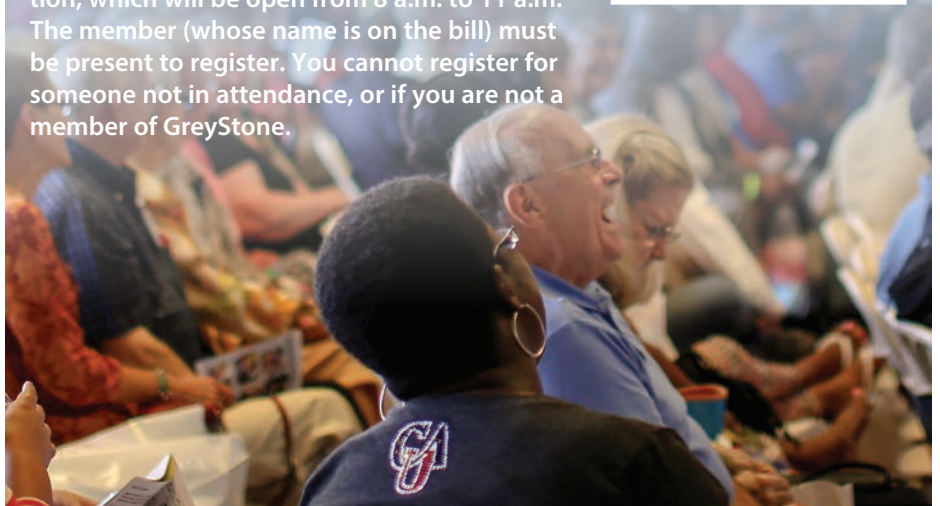
We are excited to welcome John Ford Coley, half of the Grammy-nominated duo England Dan and John Ford Coley, as this year's performer, beginning at 9:45 a.m. Fans will remember the duo's hit song "I'd Really Love to See You Tonight," which peaked at #2 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart in 1976. Members will have an opportunity to win a meet-and-greet with John simply by downloading the new GreyStone Outage Helper app to their mobile device.

We also welcome new and re-elected members to our Board of Directors. They will begin their terms in office following the voice vote, since there is only one nominee for each district, held during the business meeting.

This year's selected nominees are District 3: David Hagenow (incumbent), Douglas and Paulding counties; District 5: Jennifer DeNyse (incumbent), Carroll and Douglas counties; and District 9: Lucy Andres, Cobb County.

Members will enjoy many treats and benefits at the event, including a free Chick-fil-A® biscuit (8 a.m. to 10 a.m.), games and activities for children and a health fair. We are also excited to offer mini EE101 seminars at 8:30 a.m. and 9 a.m. in the Solar Expo for members interested in learning more about our new Cooperative Solar program and other energy efficiency tips.

Bring your electric bill to simplify registration, which will be open from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. The member (whose name is on the bill) must be present to register. You cannot register for someone not in attendance, or if you are not a member of GreyStone.



# Do It Yourself

Ask the Expert

## Contest update

In the January issue of *GEORGIA Magazine*, we discussed a contest and prizes for the most interesting and resourceful energy-efficient tips or suggestions sent in by our members. The grand prize is a \$100 gift certificate. Second and third prize winners received a \$50 gift certificate. We are happy to announce the winning tips below.

We asked you to send us an energy-efficient tip or suggestion that you and your family have used. The most interesting and resourceful response received the grand prize of a \$100 gift certificate, and second and third prize winners each received a \$50 gift certificate.

The response committee met and made their decision to award a grand-prize winner and three second place winners as the judging was very close. I personally visited all four winners and was impressed with each suggestion.

Congratulations to our grand prize winner, Carey Wade, of Douglasville. He suggested if the electric water heater is warm to the touch and not in a conditioned area, you should insulate it to save energy and hot water. The committee voted this suggestion No. 1, since the water heater is the second largest energy user in the home with the most energy-saving potential.

Chet Toler, of Douglasville, modified his basement's fluorescent light fixtures to accept 60-watt equivalent LED bulbs, and save energy. He states that the lighting is much better now and he is using less wattage and saving energy. LED bulbs are fast replacing the CFLs and should be considered when replacing bulbs.

Joy Bullington, who lives in Hiram, decided to insulate her garage so she would no longer lose heat or cool air when she opens the door to enter her kitchen from the garage. She now saves energy and increases her comfort level. She also insulated the ceiling above her garage to match the insulation level of the rest of her attic.

The third second place winner is

Margaret Holland from the New Hope community in Paulding County. She suggested saving energy by making it a point to always enter your home from a door that is protected from the outside weather, such as a garage or an enclosed porch. Seasonal air entering your home can quickly affect temperatures through opening doors not protected from the outside elements. Margaret was excited to receive a visit and learn that she had won a prize.

We would like to congratulate and thank each of the winners for taking the time to share their stories with us. We appreciate the energy-efficient efforts that each one is making!

### DIY top three

1. Insulate your electric water heater if it is warm to the touch and located in an unconditioned area.
2. Consider replacing old light-bulbs with LED bulbs.
3. Consider insulating your garage door and ensure that the door to your home is weather-stripped properly to prevent bad air from entering your home through the garage.

Mark your calendar for the next EE101 on **Nov. 10, 2016!**

To register or for more information, call 770-370-2070.

Rudy Echols  
Energy Services Manager



# Cooperative Solar

## Capture Your Share of the Sun

GET EQUIPPED WITH  
DO-IT-YOURSELF  
SKILLS AND LOWER  
YOUR ENERGY BILL

### UPCOMING SEMINARS

**EE101:**

**Saturday, Oct. 8, 2016**

*Mini-seminars*

**8:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.**  
GreyStone Power Expo tent,  
Annual Meeting of Members

**Thursday, Nov. 10, 2016**

**6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

GreyStone Power Auditorium  
4040 Bankhead Hwy.  
Douglasville

Seats are limited, so reserve yours now! Seminar is for adults only. No children, please, as they may disturb someone else trying to learn.

For more information, call 770-370-2070 or visit [greystonepower.com](http://greystonepower.com).



# More savings, more autumn adventures



The leaves are turning and a refreshing briskness fills the air. For many, this is one of the best times of the year for an outdoors adventure. Whether you attend a fall festival with family and friends, or work around the house, being outside can be invigorating.

Adventures are all around us on a

daily basis. We simply have to look for them. For many, going to the grocery store is an adventure! No matter what you have in store, the Co-op Connections® Card (CCC) can help you save money!

Are you thinking about driving up to the mountains? Save on your car's tune-up. How about an end-of-the-year outing to Six Flags Over Georgia? Use the CCC and save! From rental cars to realtors, let the CCC help you pad your wallet.

As a member of GreyStone Power, you can receive the CCC and the many benefits that come with it for free. As a cardholder, you can take advantage of deals not only in your local neighborhood, but also with national companies. You can find savings on travel, discounts through online shopping with Cash Back Mall (just in time for the holidays), valuable coupons through *Coupons.com*, and Healthy Savings discounts.

Though it's not an insurance plan, Healthy Savings through the CCC offers discounts on vision, hearing, dental,

chiropractic, lab and imaging services, and prescriptions for those in need.

One of the most useful CCC savings can be seen in the discounts given for prescription medications. Many members have experienced a loss of employment, income and even health insurance over the past years.

Today, with the rising cost of insurance and the increase of high-deductible plans which no longer offer a blanket cost for prescriptions, the CCC can be an invaluable tool in saving money for your family so you can experience your autumn adventure.

Ready to join in on the savings? Call 770-370-2273 to request your card today! To learn more about the various CCC programs, including the Healthy Savings program, or to get the most up-to-date business discount listing, visit [connections.coop/greystonepower](http://connections.coop/greystonepower).

Interested in adding your business to the program for free? Visit the CCC page of [greystonepower.com](http://greystonepower.com) or call 770-370-2436 for more information.

## Welcome new businesses!

### Christian Family Auto & Detail

Douglasville ... 770-372-3780  
10% off all services.

### The Mattress and More Outlet

Hiram ... 770-852-8854  
10% off any mattress or set \$399 or more.

### Ragsdale Electrical

Dallas ... 770-443-1821  
\$30 off any \$100 or more electrical repair.  
Available 24/7 for your emergency.

### The Farmer's Table

Douglasville ... 770-693-0171  
10% off a purchase of \$20 or more.

### Snugababy

Dallas ... 678-463-9667  
\$10 off product with promo code **GSP**.

### Elizabeth O. Williams, Atlanta Communities Real Estate Brokerage

Dallas ... 770-617-4422  
\$300 credit at closing or one free Basic Will after closing.

### Dixie Produce Market

Hiram ... 678-567-1444  
10% off purchase of \$10 or more.

### Walton Communities

Marietta ... 678-303-4100  
Show your card for a reduced application fee of \$50. Valid only at Signature Communities.

### AAA Parts Today

Douglasville ... 678-715-7957  
10% off any parts purchase for appliance or HVAC system at the counter. Must show card at the time of purchase.

### Heavenly Fashions and Alterations

Hiram ... 678-402-6204  
10% off one-hour alteration cost.

### Saul & Bennett, LLC

Powder Springs ... 770-580-3530  
5% discount for each skip tracing account; additional 5% commission for each collections account.

### Nancy's Pizza

East Point ... 678-515-4805  
20% off entire order.

### The Twenty-Four Hour Notary

Powder Springs ... 404-907-8327  
10% off regular rates. Must show card before service.

### First Choice Garage Doors, LLC

Douglasville ... 678-761-4948  
Receive a free Lift Master chain drive motor (\$350 value) with a purchase of \$1,000 or more.



The one card that does it all.

# Connections.coop

# solar *made* easy



## HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

While each block costs \$25 per month, conservative estimates are that credits for the solar-powered generation will reduce the cost to approximately \$27 extra **per year** for one block of solar power, or \$54 **per year** for two blocks.

Log on to [greystonepower.com](http://greystonepower.com) for more information.

## HOW DO I SIGN UP?

Waiting list sign-ups will begin at GreyStone's Annual Meeting of Members on Saturday, Oct. 8, at the Solar Expo tent at our headquarters in Douglasville, 4040 Bankhead Highway. Be one of the first to purchase your own Cooperative Solar blocks! Or, visit [greystonepower.com](http://greystonepower.com) after Oct. 8 to sign up. Bring your entire family to enjoy the **Annual Meeting from 8 a.m. until noon.**

GreyStone Power is in the process of making solar power readily available without the obstacles of owning your own system.

Your co-op is building a cooperative solar farm near its Douglasville headquarters in Paulding County at the intersection of Laird and Ridge Roads off Highway 92. Construction began in September with the first solar-generated electricity expected to be flowing by Jan. 1.

"We have been hearing from our members that they want solar-generated power. While most people believe that almost any home can have rooftop solar successfully installed, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory estimates only about 25 percent of the residential rooftops in our country are suitable for on-site solar generation," says GreyStone CEO Gary Miller. "The great thing about GreyStone Cooperative Solar is that no matter what your home's situation, you can participate in solar energy production."

As a GreyStone Power member-owner, you can receive the output from the solar facility according to your needs and interest. Every month, the energy output of your portion will be calculated and credited to your bill. This solar energy will offset energy produced from traditional fuels. GreyStone member-owners may purchase up to two blocks of solar energy. There is no contract, and you may cancel your participation at any time.

**The completed project will be one of the first and largest cooperative solar installations in the state.**

## FAST FACTS

Total electricity output of project: **APPROX. 2,044,000 KWH/YEAR**

Number of panels: **4,256**

Panel type: **CANADIAN 320W POLY MODULES**

Panel output: **320 WATTS**

Panel tilt: **20 DEGREES**

Construction company: **RADIANCE SOLAR, ATLANTA**

Land area: **6 ACRES**

Energy availability: **FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED**

## COOPERATIVE SOLAR ADVANTAGES

- GreyStone Power operates and maintains panels
- Economies of scale bring panel costs down
- No holes in your roof
- No solar siting issues (roof direction, shading, etc.)
- Renters can participate
- Homeowners under restrictive covenants can participate

**COMING  
2017**



**GREYSTONE**  
COOPERATIVE SOLAR