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# Hi-Lites

## Ten 2016 IEC Memorial Scholarships Available

Coles Moultrie Electric Cooperative has announced that the Illinois electric cooperatives in 2016 will award nine academic scholarships to high school seniors through a memorial scholarship fund designed to financially assist deserving students in the “electric cooperative family.” In addition, a tenth scholarship – to assist with costs in attending an electric line-worker school – will also be offered.

The total of ten scholarships of \$2,000 each will be awarded in 2016 through the Thomas H. Moore Illinois Electric Cooperatives (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program.

Five scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors who are the sons or daughters of an Illinois electric cooperative member receiving service from the cooperative. A sixth scholarship, the Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship, will be awarded to a student who is the son or daughter of an Illinois electric cooperative employee. Three additional scholarships are reserved for students enrolling full-time at a two-year Illinois community college who are the sons or daughters of Illinois electric cooperative members, employees or directors.



The tenth annual scholarship, the “LaVern and Nola McEntire Line-worker’s Scholarship,” was awarded for the first time in 2011. This \$2,000 scholarship will help pay for costs to attend the line-worker’s school conducted by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives in conjunction with Lincoln Land Community College, Springfield, Ill. LaVern McEntire served as a line-man for McDonough Power Electric Cooperative from 1949 until 1991. He and his wife, Nola, endowed the scholarship to financially assist deserving individuals in becoming trained line-workers. Sons and daughters of co-op

members; relatives of co-op employees or directors; and individuals who have served or are serving in the armed forces or National Guard are all eligible for the line-worker’s scholarship.

“We hope to assist electric cooperative youth while honoring past rural electric leaders with these scholarships,” says Kim Leftwich, CEO. “Coles Moultrie and the other Illinois electric cooperatives are always seeking ways to make a difference in our communities. One of the best ways we can do that is by helping our youth through programs like this one. In addition, we are very pleased to offer the electric line-worker’s scholarship. It will benefit not only electric cooperative youth but also those fine men and women who have served their country through their military service and may now be wanting to become a trained line-worker.”

For more information regarding the scholarships, contact Kelsey Hawkins at 888-661-2632 or 217-235-0341. All necessary paperwork has also been sent to area high school guidance counselors and is also available for download at the cooperative’s website at [cmec.coop](http://cmec.coop).

**The Cooperative office will be closed  
November 26th and 27th in observance of  
Thanksgiving.**





A publication of Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative

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P.O. Box 709 (104 Dewitt Ave., East)  
Mattoon, Illinois 61938

Phone: 217/235-0341 or  
Toll-Free: 1-888-661-CMEC (2632)  
Office hours:  
Monday-Friday  
7:30a.m. - 4:30p.m.

**Chairman**

Jeffery D. Hudson..... Charleston

**Vice Chairperson**

Debbie Albin.....Mattoon

**Secretary**

John Bowers ..... Lovington

**Treasurer**

Philip Meyer..... Sullivan

**Director**

Dean Robison..... Windsor  
Steve Shrader..... Westfield  
Scott Uphoff..... Mattoon

**President/CEO**

Kim Leftwich

**To report an outage**

- First check your fuses or circuit breakers and see if your neighbors have power.
- If the problem appears to be with the cooperative's lines, call the office at the toll free number (888-661-2632), give the name the service is listed under, and report any hazardous conditions.

# Board Report

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative was held at the Cooperative office at 104 Dewitt Avenue, East, Mattoon, Illinois at 7pm August 27, 2015, pursuant to notice duly given. The meeting was called to order by Jeff Hudson, Chairman. After calling the roll, the following directors were present: Scott Uphoff, Philip Meyer, Jeff Hudson, Steve Shrader, Debbie Albin, Dean Robison, and John Bowers being a quorum of the directors of the Cooperative. Also present were Kim Leftwich - President/CEO, Jim Wallace - Director of Operations, Amy Borntrager - Chief Financial Officer, Darla Powell - Director of Human Resources/Office Manager, Bill Tapella - Eberspacher & Tapella and Aaron Stallings of CFC.

The agenda was approved as amended in addition to the Consent Calendar as submitted that included the New Members, the July Safety

& Training report, the 08/06/15 Audit & Finance Committee Meeting, and the 08/06/15 Regular Board meeting minutes. Motion seconded.

Bill Tapella gave the legal report.

Aaron Stallings of CFC presented the 2014 KRTA report.

The motion to change the November board meeting to 12/3/15 and the December board meeting to 1/6/16 was carried

A motion was made to encourage Kim Leftwich to become the District #5 Director on the NISC Board. After discussion, this motion was passed.

Amy Borntrager gave the financial report.

Director Uphoff gave the PPI report.

Director Albin gave the AIEC report.

Kim Leftwich gave the President/CEO report.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Reduce energy for water heating. Take simple steps like lowering your water heater's temperature and installing low-flow showerheads to reduce your water heating bills.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)

# There is a Cooperative Difference

By Adam Schwartz

***While all electric utilities offer the same product, where it comes from makes a difference.***

In the U.S., the vast majority of people receive their electricity from one of three types of utilities; investor-owned, municipal-owned or through their electric cooperative, which is owned and controlled by the people who use it. Let's take a closer look at these three types of ownership models and see why it matters to you.

In the investor-owned model, the corporation is owned by a great number of stockholders who may or may not be real customers of the utility. Investor-owned utilities tend to be very large corporations such as Entergy, Con Edison or Ameren. They serve large cities, suburban areas and some rural areas, too.

In most cases, investor-owned utilities (IOUs) have few employees in the communities where they operate. This, combined with the fact that they have outside investors whose sole motive is to make a profit on their investment, generally tends to lead to less personalized service. Consumer surveys confirm that IOUs have the lowest customer satisfaction ratings.

About 72 percent of the U.S. population is served by investor-owned utilities.

Municipal electric systems, as the name implies, are government owned. They can serve large cities, like Los Angeles, Austin or Orlando, or smaller areas, like Coon Rapids, Iowa or Morgantown, N.C. In municipal systems, the city runs the utility with little to no meaningful oversight from the citizens. About 16 percent of the market is served by municipal utilities.

Rural electric cooperatives serve the smallest number of consumers, about 12 percent of the market, which equals 42 million people. There are more than 800 other electric co-ops in 47 states in addition to Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative. While co-ops serve the fewest number of people, our electric lines cover more than 75 percent of the U.S. landmass. This is because we provide power where others once refused to go because of the low population density. Electric co-ops rank highest in member satisfaction among the three

types of utilities. We believe this is because we serve member-owners, not customers.

As the electric utility business continues to evolve, we are committed to being there for you, our member, to provide for your electric energy needs. Unlike large investor-owned utilities, we are rooted right here in Coles County. Over the years, we have answered the call to provide additional benefits and services because it is extremely important to us that our community thrives and prospers. This is why we offer internet services and load management rates.

There is a cooperative difference. You own us, and we are here to serve you!

*Adam Schwartz is the founder of The Cooperative Way a consulting firm that helps co-ops succeed. He is an author, speaker and member-owner of the CDS Consulting Co-op. You can follow him on Twitter @adamcooperative or email him at aschwartz@thecooperativeway.coop*

## A Salute to Our Coles-Moultrie Veterans



Kim Leftwich, President/CEO  
United States Air Force  
1970-1978  
Air National Guard /AF Reserve  
1979-1995  
Retired Lt. Colonel



Dennis Ray,  
Field Engineer  
Navy  
1990-1995  
Avionics Technician



Gordon Reynolds,  
Line Clearance Journeyman  
Navy  
1989-1994  
Nuclear Electrician



Carla Bradbury,  
Service Representative  
Illinois Air National Guard  
1989-2000  
Personnel Officer

# Member



# Exchange

## For Sale

- Ten point Wicked Ridge cross bow with scope. Used one time. Perfect condition. Bolts with target and hunting tips included. Comes with target and carrying case. Over \$600 invested. Due to health and age I have given up hunting. If interested call 217-345-5048 to look or make offer.
- 1 x Uniroyal Long Touring P205/65R15 tire < 10k miles-\$40; 3x Douglas Performance P205/65R15 tires approx. 7,500 miles-\$50/ea. or 3 for \$140; seldom used 21 speed Schwinn Mesa mountain bike-\$175; 1957 Onan / Magneciter Generator (Ford Industrial 6 cyl.) 30KV, 37.5 KVA 104 Amps 120/208 AC volts 3 phase \$1,500 / OBO. Call 273-1818.
- Pullets, some laying now - \$8 each. Call 217-345-9770.
- 16 ft round swimming pool with pump, etc. \$200 Call 217-967-5984.
- 2010 Cub Cadet LTX 1050, 22 hp Kawasaki 50 in deck, 235 hours, extra deck belt. Asking \$1,000. Charleston. Call 217-345-7573 and leave message.
- Vacant RV lot in beautiful southwest Florida minutes from Gulf beaches located in a quiet and secure retirement community... Riverwoods Plantation in Estero, Florida. See riverwoods.com for amenities. Lot is large enough for a full size park model home or a large motor home. Full hook-ups. \$54,000 to buy or \$750 per month to rent. Call 217-294-1605.
- Storm door and Entry door - one piece in frame for modular home, 8 months old, bought new. Call 217-234-4318.
- New in box: 3 replacement Woods mower blades, 60" cut for RM360 & RM550 model mowers. Call 217-346-2500 and leave message.
- Leather recliner chair, hunter green, in excellent condition, 4 years old, asking \$350, located in Sullivan IL. Call 217-855-0096.

## For Rent

- Country home, 3 bedrooms, 2 car garage, 2 baths with jacuzzi tubs and showers, fireplace, sunroom, upstairs deck off master bedroom. \$900. Call 217-343-2923 for application.

LOAF OF BREAD	
1936.....	8¢
2013.....	\$1.41
<b>INCREASE.....</b>	<b>18X</b>

ELECTRICITY	
1936.....	5¢
2013.....	11¢
<b>INCREASE.....</b>	<b>2X</b>

BASED ON AVERAGE COST PER KILOWATT HOUR

## ELECTRICITY PUTS BREAD ON YOUR TABLE. AND KEEPS IT IN YOUR WALLET.

Keeping energy affordable. Just another way it pays to be a co-op member. Learn more about the power of your co-op membership at TogetherWeSave.com.



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TOGETHERWESAVE.COM