

THE GRID

P.O. Box 709
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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.

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Bill Voyles Sullivan

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Andrew FearnCharleston

Treasurer

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Jeffery HudsonCharleston
Mike Love..... Mattoon
Colt Roderick Trilla

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**To Report an Outage
call #888-661-2632**

**Find Your Name
and Win \$50**

Find your name hidden inside this issue of The Grid and receive a **\$50 bill credit**. Credit must be claimed by the end of each month in which this newsletter is published.



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Welcome



Our new Member Service Representative, Chenoa Lovell, from Casey, Ill.

OCT 6 FRIDAY **SAVE THE DATE**

2023
Member Celebration & Annual Meeting

Wholesale Power Adjustment

CMEC announced in our March Grid the impact our co-op has faced with the rising costs of wholesale power. Our CEO announced in our April edition an increase of one cent to the Wholesale Power Adjustment (WPA) on members' bills. We are currently undergoing a cost-of-service study to analyze our rate structure. Your co-op is working hard to keep rates competitive and fair.



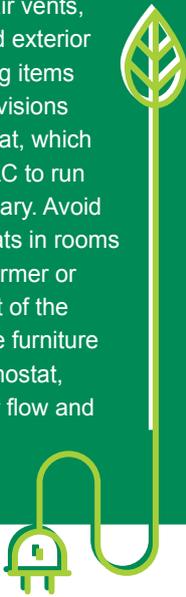
Thank you!

Special thanks to all those who were able to attend our Annual Live Line Demo at the Wabash Fire House in Mattoon. First responders and firefighters will receive CEUs.

Live Line Picture courtesy of Greg Cooper, EIU Journalism

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

The location of your thermostat can impact your HVAC system's ability to maintain an ideal indoor temperature. For maximum accuracy, thermostats should be placed in the center of the home, away from air vents, plumbing pipes and exterior doors. Avoid placing items like lamps and televisions near your thermostat, which can cause the HVAC to run longer than necessary. Avoid installing thermostats in rooms that tend to feel warmer or colder than the rest of the home. Do not place furniture in front of the thermostat, which can block air flow and result in inaccurate readings.



Futures Day



Lineman Bob Schafer
and MHS teacher
Ashley Manning

CMEC participated in Futures Day at Mattoon High School. Contact info@cmeccoop if you would like us to talk about the lineworker profession or safe electricity at your next meeting or event.

Do you



“Watts” a good way to manage your contact information, track energy usage, and plan to conserve electricity to lower your bill?

Download the Smarthub app or visit our website at cmeccoop.

Coffee
on the Co-op



Join us for
coffee & conversation

Wednesday, May 24
7-8:30 a.m.

At Jackson Avenue Coffee in Charleston
Stay tuned for next month's location!

All members are welcome!

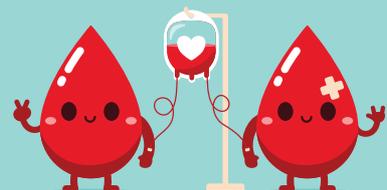


Concern for Community

Mark your Calendar for
Monday, June 5th

- ♥ **What:** CMEC is cohosting a Blood Drive
- ♥ **Where:** The Fields Church, 900 Dewitt Ave., Mattoon
- ♥ **When:** 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- ♥ **Why:** Save Lives

Members who donate will receive some free co-op giveaways while supplies last.





Youth Day 2023

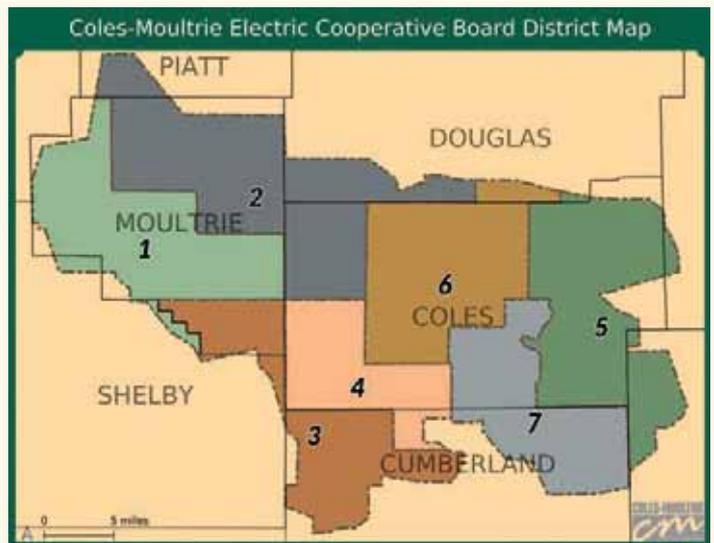
Thank you to our area students for attending Youth Day 2023 in Springfield and Kansas High School's Andrew Boyce for helping chaperone.

- * **Arcola** - Bianca Arguelles, Tyson Lewis and Kelsey Moore
- * **Arthur** - Evanger Wiley
- * **Bethany** - Lydia Webner
- * **Kansas** - Austin Bolton, Kaitlyn Brandenburg, Emily Drummond and Katey Ehlers
- * **Lovington** - Brady Moore
- * **Mattoon** - Alyssa Beever and Aydin Tariq
- * **Sullivan** - Katilyn Kirby



Director Nominations by Petition

Board of Director nominations are due to CMEC by July 4, 2023. Director districts to be elected in 2023 are 2, 4, 5 and 6. Nomination is made by the petition of members in accordance with cooperative bylaws. Directors represent all members of Coles Moultrie Electric Cooperative, serve 3-year terms and attend monthly board meetings. The co-op is divided into seven districts. We welcome any members from districts 2, 4, 5 and 6 who are considering nomination to call our office at 217-235-0341 or email info@cmeccoop.com.



May is Military Appreciation Month

Service. Mission. Country. You likely identified immediately (and correctly) that these three words describe our nation's veterans. They also succinctly describe a core co-op ethos.

While veterans are innately motivated to serve, in a similar vein, electric co-ops are guided by foundational principles that put their community first. After all, electric co-ops were founded to bring electricity to rural areas where there was none. In doing so, they powered local economies and helped them to thrive. I believe this close connection to an essential mission is why there are so many veterans in the utility industry and why they are such a great fit for electric co-ops.

Today's veterans are highly skilled, because everyone who joins the military is either trained in a tech career field or exposed to advanced technology during their years of service. Many veterans have skills in advanced disciplines such as engineering, electronics and mechanics, which are all beneficial for the utility industry. Your co-op is proud to employ three veterans, and we're especially grateful for their contributions to the co-op and to our community.

Leadership and teambuilding skills

Our veteran colleagues joined the co-op equipped with training in leadership and teamwork. That's because while on active duty within their units, servicemen and women work closely together because they know their lives depend on each other's actions. This fosters a high level of self-discipline, a sense of personal responsibility and a passion for excellence.



The utility industry is increasingly complex and is undergoing a profound transformation. While there are the traditional engineering and vegetation management aspects of the utility industry, it now also encompasses technology, cybersecurity and the electrification of the transportation sector and other areas of the economy. Veterans are adept at responding to changing conditions and learning and adapting to new technologies, which is essential in our evolving industry.

Mission-oriented outlook

Working for an electric co-op is more than a job. There is a clear mission to help our members and the community. When you work so closely with the community, you can't help but feel a sense of commitment and responsibility to our members. It's similar to the sense of duty and responsibility that veterans experience in the military. They feel deep, personal responsibility and commitment to their co-op team members and to the members we serve. Veterans are trustworthy and goal-oriented; they want to do right for their co-op and their community.

May is Military Appreciation Month, and at CMEC, we are grateful to have veterans within our ranks, and we are proud to serve them and their families within our community. But beyond our gratitude, we demonstrate our deep appreciation through our actions and ongoing commitment to veterans and their families.

Throughout the year, we support or partner with local charitable and business organizations that support veterans and their families.

At the national level, electric co-ops support the "Vets Power Us" program, which is aimed at employing and honoring veterans and their families. **January 2019** This effort involves partnering with other electric co-ops across the country, along with the Department of Labor, the Department of Defense, the Veterans Administration and others to hire veterans in the energy industry.

May is Military Appreciation Month, and we hope you'll join us in recognizing the sacrifices veterans have made to our great country — and the many contributions they continue to make to our wonderful community.

Veterans, we salute you!

A graphic featuring a blue background with a white megaphone icon on the left. To the right of the megaphone, the text "DID YOU KNOW?" is written in white and yellow. Below this, a yellow speech bubble contains the text: "Our CMEC mission statement is 'To Serve Our Members.' That's the co-op difference. We are not-for-profit, member-owned and governed by the Seven Cooperative Principles." The graphic is decorated with small white circles and plus signs.

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes can be viewed on our website: cmec.coop