

Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative

# THE GRID

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**

Kent Metzger.....Gays

**Vice Chairman**

Bill Voyles .....Sullivan

**Secretary**

Andrew Fearn ....Charleston

**Treasurer**

Thomas Sherman ...Humboldt

**Directors**

Jeffery Hudson .....Charleston

Mike Love..... Mattoon

Colt Roderick ..... Trilla

**President/CEO**

Amy Borntreger

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

*You're invited!*

Join us as we celebrate you, **Friday, Oct. 4th, at Peterson Park for our Annual Member Celebration and Meeting.** Stay in your vehicle and enter the park using Broadway Avenue at the southwest 5th Street entrance. Employees will be on hand to greet and guide you. Boxed lunches, shakeups, and giveaways will be available at 11 a.m., while supplies last. Meet your Board of Directors and stay for our Business Meeting at 1 p.m. in the Demars Center, or watch live on Facebook, or tune in on your radio to Victory 103.9. Early Bird Registration starts at 6:30 a.m. at the park, and registered members will receive a \$25 bill credit.



**ANNUAL MEMBER CELEBRATION AND MEETING**  
**Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup>**



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

# Co-ops Power Communities with Purpose

Communities come in all shapes and sizes. Some are based on geographical proximity, some are based on shared interests or hobbies, and some communities can even be found in virtual spaces like social media groups. Regardless of where or how they are formed, communities can bring people together and create a sense of belonging.

Coles Moultrie Electric Cooperative (CMEC) is deeply committed to our consumer members, and we're glad you are part of the electric cooperative community.

This month, more than 30,000 cooperatives across the U.S. are celebrating National Co-op Month. It's a time to reflect on all the aspects that set cooperatives apart from other types of businesses, but more importantly, it's a time to celebrate the power of co-op membership.

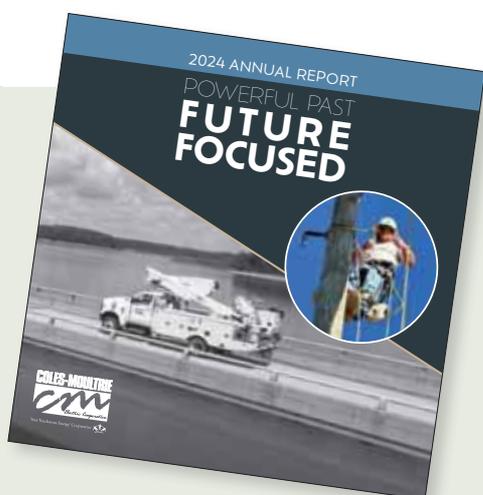
Electric cooperatives are not-for-profit utilities that are built by the communities they serve. For CMEC, our mission has always been to provide you with reliable power. We care about your quality of life, and because we are locally operated, we're uniquely suited to meet our members' evolving energy needs.

Beyond the business of electricity, our employees and directors are equally invested in our local community. Why? Because we live here, too. That's why we work hard to support local economic development projects, youth programs and scholarships, charitable giving initiatives and additional programs that make our community a better place to call home.



All co-ops, including CMEC, are guided by seven cooperative principles that embody the values and spirit of the cooperative movement. These seven principles are a framework to help all co-ops navigate challenges and opportunities while remaining true to our purpose. **Jeffrey Hemann**

This October, as we celebrate National Co-op Month and the power of membership, we hope you will recognize the many aspects that set electric cooperatives apart. Our mission is reliable power. Our purpose is people and the local communities we're proud to serve.



## Annual Report

Your CMEC 2024 Annual Report has been mailed to all members. Request a copy by emailing [info@cmeccoop](mailto:info@cmeccoop) or visit our website [www.cmeccoop](http://www.cmeccoop).



# POWERING YOUR FUTURE

17 SCHOLARSHIPS \$2,500 EACH



<https://alec.coop/iec-scholarship>



IEC MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS



## Become a Co-op Voter

If you could shape the future of our community, would you? The 2024 general elections are taking place nationwide next month, giving co-op members — like you — the opportunity to make your voice heard on issues that affect our community. This election is our opportunity to elect candidates who support energy policies that promote safe, reliable, affordable energy.

CMEC understands the importance of voting with co-op issues in mind and is working to ensure all our members go to the polls as Co-op Voters. To help, we are partnering with [www.vote.coop](http://www.vote.coop), a national, non-partisan initiative focused on enhancing the political strength of electric cooperatives through relationship-building with policymakers.

Co-ops Vote is a program built to give members in our service territory the resources and information needed to vote with CMEC issues in mind. Together, we have the power to educate lawmakers, build awareness about our issues and concerns and support legislative issues that are important to our communities. The co-op voice is powerful, and it starts with you!

## Socks for One Stop and Grab & Go Wednesdays

CMEC is having a sock drive during National Co-op Month, and we will be collecting new socks (newborn to age 18) all month long. Members who drop off donations will be entered into a drawing for a chance at a \$50 Bill Credit. Be sure to stop by on Wednesdays for a Grab & Go co-op giveaway.





## Safety Coin

CMEC delivers electricity to you, which requires employees to approach their daily tasks with a focus on safety. Our co-op started a tradition of awarding a safety coin to employees who demonstrate exceptional safety practices. When six of our linemen were in Arkansas to assist with power restoration, the coin was passed along by Area Serviceman Bob Schafer to fellow lineman Dalton Moore from Carroll Electric Co-op in Arkansas. Dalton's extensive knowledge of their system and troubleshooting software helped save time and trouble in finding damaged locations where we were needed. His uncompromising commitment to keeping us safe meant he was regularly in communication with "bird dogs" to ensure anyone working on the same line was under his umbrella. He utilized pole wrap and hold cards, along with ground chains at the source and work locations, to keep all workers safe. He was a great example of "Cooperation among Cooperatives."

*Pictured Left to Right, Dalton Moore, CECC Lineman, and Bob Schafer, CMEC Lineman*

## Words of Thanks

**"Thank you for donating to help the Moultrie Douglas 4H program. Your donation is sincerely appreciated. Thank you for making 4H possible and special!"**

*From Moultrie-Douglas 4H*

**"Thank you for your contribution to the 2024 Movies in the Park program and our Summer Read activities at the Mattoon Public Library! Our programming was a success this year, with six movie showings this summer, 382 participants engaged in our reading program, and several special events throughout June and July. We couldn't be as successful as we are without partners like you! We appreciate your support."**

*From Deputy Director Beth Pugh*

BEWARE OF THE  
**ENERGY  
VAMPIRES**

Some electronics draw power even when turned off.  
Learn how to stop these energy vampires at:

Safe  
Electricity.org

### 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.

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes can be viewed on our website: [cmec.coop](http://cmec.coop)