

Scholarships
Do You One Better

Projects You Should
& Shouldn't Do

JEMCOnews

A PUBLICATION FOR JACKSON EMC MEMBERS

June 2013



500 PENNIES for LIGHT

*Celebrating 75 Years of
People. Power. Progress.*



1938 - 2013
JACKSON EMC
PEOPLE. POWER. PROGRESS.



President/CEO
Randall Pugh

People. Power. Progress.

No guts, no glory sums up what it took for hardworking community leaders, farmers and neighbors to pay \$5 into the cooperative membership that would become Jackson EMC. Living in an economy deeply affected by the Great Depression, folks took saving to heart, especially those in rural communities.

That small act of faith by the people formed a cooperative to bring power to the people, which in turn led to progress for the people. Just 75 years ago, Jackson EMC's first line project totaled 171 miles and included 664 farms in Jackson, Banks and Madison counties. Our journey began in sweat, hard labor and long hours. Men dug holes, set poles by hand and strung lines before the days of bucket trucks, backhoes and other modern equipment that we've come to rely on to get the power back on quickly and safely. Working with electricity was also a dangerous job that required maximum concentration even in unfriendly weather conditions. Bills were written by hand, along with many customer records and company documents.

Today, the cooperative serves more than 209,000 meters in 10 counties across northeast Georgia, making it the largest in the state and second largest in the country. We now have about 13,500 miles of energized wire feeding electricity to residential and commercial customers.

Line crews continue to work hard, sometimes in hazardous conditions to keep the power flowing, but we're also working smart.

Implementing smart meters, paperless billing, online outage reporting and other services allow us to make doing business with Jackson EMC easy and efficient.

That hard earned \$5 membership fee that many paid 75 years ago to start the cooperative remains just \$5 today, and gives you the same ownership rights in the cooperative. Jackson EMC is a cooperative owned by the members it serves, and this month marks the beginning of a year-long celebration that honors 75 years of People. Power. Progress.

Follow us on this journey each month in *Jemco News*, and visit our 75th Anniversary website at www.jacksonemc.com/75 to learn more about your cooperative.

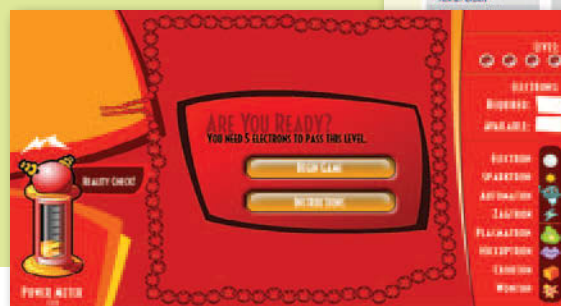


onlinef@cts

WHEN SCHOOL IS OUT, KIDS PAGES ARE IN!

Give the kids something fun and educational to do while on summer break with Jackson EMC's Kids Pages. Packed with science experiments, interactive games, activity pages, safety lessons, videos and more, the Kids Pages have something for Kindergarten through sixth grade. Teachers can also find lesson plans and activities to use during the school year, and there's safety and energy efficiency information for parents too. Kids can also join the e-SMART Kids Game Club for an educational mystery adventure.

CHECK IT OUT TODAY
at www.jacksonemc.com/kids,
and add a little learning fun to
your kid's summer.



JEMCO news

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Scholarships Do You One Better

In the South, there's a saying, "I'll do you one better" when describing something that will one-up the current topic. For the 2013 scholarship recipients, the only thing better than receiving a college acceptance letter is receiving money to help pay for it.

Each year, Jackson EMC awards the A.T. Sharpton University of North Georgia™ (formerly Gainesville State College) Restricted and A.T. Sharpton Unrestricted scholarships to deserving students entering or already attending an accredited college, university or technical school. This year's recipients will each receive a \$1,000 scholarship. The Restricted scholarship recipients must attend University of North Georgia, while the Unrestricted recipients may attend any two- or four-year accredited institution in the U.S.

Meet our 2013 A.T. Sharpton Restricted and Unrestricted Scholarship recipients. ▲

A.T. SHARPTON RESTRICTED RECIPIENTS



Sydney Ellen Bain

Bain is the daughter of Ted and Pamela Bain of Braselton, Ga. Bain plans to major in Anthropology.



Feliciano Anthony J. Divinagracia

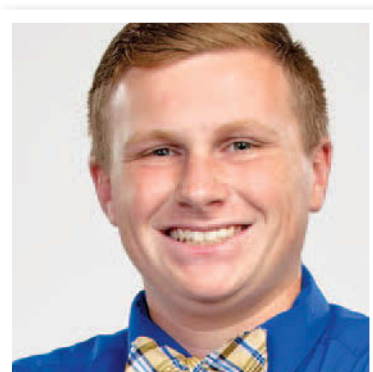
Divinagracia is the son of Rene and Susan Divinagracia of Gainesville, Ga. Divinagracia intends to major in Biology with plans to continue his education in a Pharmacy program.



Madison Paige Muesse

Muesse is the daughter of Joseph and Belinda Muesse of Winder, Ga. Muesse's goal is to become a psychologist who specializes in serving people dealing with chronic pain issues.

A.T. SHARPTON UNRESTRICTED RECIPIENTS



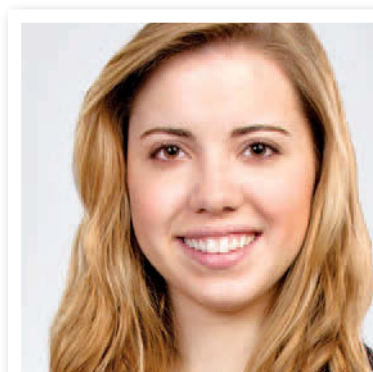
Alfred Samuel Derochers

Derochers is the son of John and Karen Derochers of Jefferson, Ga. Derochers selected the Georgia Institute of Technology as his first choice to study Aerospace Engineering.



Christie Sui

Sui is the daughter of Steve and Hua Zhu Sui of Johns Creek, Ga. Sui plans to major in Public Health with a goal to work for the World Health Organization of the United Nations. Sui will be attending Northwestern University this fall.



Christina Marie Zachary

Zachary is the daughter of Terry and Cecilia Zachary of Lawrenceville, Ga. Zachary intends to major in Computer Science at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

500 PENNIES for LIGHT

THE 1930s WERE KNOWN AS THE GREAT DEPRESSION DECADE where jobs were scarce, wages were low and resources were limited. Imagine scraping by to put food on the table and coming up with \$82 to get electricity. In 1938, \$5 had the same buying power as \$82 today and for most people, it was hard to come by.



Before there was light in rural America there was a movement, and that movement promised to bring electricity to homes and farms outside the city limits. While residents living in town enjoyed electric stoves, irons, radios and even refrigerators, farm life was dark once the sun set. Families read by kerosene lamps that often burned so dim you could barely see. There were no street lights along the roads or porch lights to guide you home. But, farm life was about to change.

In 1935, President Franklin Roosevelt established the Rural Electrification Administration (REA) as an emergency agency to carry electricity to as many farms as possible. A year later, the Rural Electrification Act made the REA a permanent agency. A group of Jackson County business and community leaders rallied their neighbors to form an electric cooperative, a new venture made available under the

REA. Local residents put down \$5 for membership in an organization that didn't yet exist for a service many hadn't seen and didn't know how to use. No one surfed the Internet to see how the process was working for other communities and there wasn't an App to track the project's progress. Neighbors had to trust that their hard-earned money was going toward something great. Deals were sealed with a handshake and neighbors often put \$5 in for those who didn't have it.

Hope, faith and 500 pennies gave birth to Jackson Electric Membership Corporation. Chartered on June 27, 1938, Jackson EMC's first lines

surged with electricity nearly 10 months later as rural residents waited for their lives to change.

Soon, churning butter by hand gave way to electric churns, listening to the radio was a common pastime and cooking with a wooden stove became a distant memory.

Seventy-five years later, Jackson EMC

now serves more than 209,000 meters in

10 counties throughout north-

east Georgia, making it the largest

electric cooperative in the state and the

second largest in the country. While the

cost of living and doing business have

increased since its humble beginnings, the

cooperative enjoys residential electric rates

17 percent lower than the national average

and 11 percent below the state average.

The cooperative is celebrating 75 years of people, power and progress thanks to a faithful few who believed hard work and 500 pennies would provide a better way of life. ▲



Left to right: George W. Westmoreland, attorney; R.J. Kelly, Jackson EMC superintendent; J.W. Jackson, Jackson County agent; J.C. Head, Jackson EMC board chairman; at the January 2, 1939, groundbreaking for the cooperative's first substation.

FOOD PRICES IN THE 1930s



Loaf of Bread
9¢



A Quart of Milk
14¢



Round Steak
42¢ a pound



Charles K. Gorham (top)
Shade Storey (bottom right)



Storey Replaces Gorham on Jackson EMC Board

Charles K. Gorham has retired from the Jackson EMC Board of Directors after 22 years of service. A member of Jackson EMC since 1963, Gorham spent most of his professional career with

Westinghouse, later ABB, in Athens, joining the board following the resignation of Aaron McKinney.

“Charles was the first engineer to serve on the board of an engineering-driven organization,” noted Jackson EMC’s Board Chairman Otis Jones. “He not only brought that technical knowledge to his board appointment, but also an MBA’s keen eye for detail. I’ve never served with another board member who was more thoughtful on the issues or more prepared for

board meetings. He has served this cooperative’s members well and unselfishly, becoming a board member at the height of the tremendous growth we experienced in the ’90s and the challenges that it brought with it.”

Shade Storey, a native of Jackson County, and Division Senior Vice President of Northeast Georgia Bank with 16 years of experience in the banking industry, has been appointed to fill Gorham’s unexpired term. “Shade brings to the board not only a strong financial background but also a solid understanding of Jackson County business issues, great strengths in a company such as ours that is impacted so much by both,” said Jones.

Storey holds a B.B.A. from North Georgia College & State University and a graduate degree in banking from Louisiana State University. ▲

operationroundup

Jackson EMC Foundation Awards Nearly \$98,000 in Grants

The Jackson EMC Foundation Board of Directors awarded a total of \$97,510 in grants during their April meeting, including \$89,500 to organizations and \$8,010 to individuals.

Organizational Grant Recipients:

\$15,000 to Exodus Outreach, a Buford nonprofit organization serving people in all walks of life who are hurting and in need of support, for a summer program that offers at-risk students in Kindergarten through eighth grade with a summer learning and development curriculum. The program provides supervision and readies students to succeed in school during the fall.

\$15,000 to Peace Place, a domestic violence shelter in Winder, to help provide expanded and enhanced transitional housing support through an Empowerment Advocate who will provide direct case management and empowerment-based counseling to program participants to help them address issues of safety, self-sufficiency, stable housing, employment and financial planning.

\$15,000 to the Summer Scholars Institute, a three-year academic enrichment program designed to help

at-risk middle and high school students prepare for college and careers. Held at Gainesville State College, the summer program concentrates on the basic areas of reading, writing and mathematics, along with science for third-year students.

\$10,000 to Extra Special People in Watkinsville to provide an opportunity for special needs or seriously ill children from low-income or financially distressed families to attend a weeklong camp where they can explore nature, discover their own abilities, master new skills and make new friends.

\$10,000 to Spectrum Autism Support Group, a parent-run nonprofit group in Suwanee that provides support, education and resources for the entire spectrum of autism disorders, to enable disadvantaged autistic individuals ages four to 22 to attend the organization’s weeklong summer camp program where daily activities are used to teach social skills.

\$6,500 to Center Point, a Gainesville nonprofit which mentors at-risk young people in Gainesville City and Hall County schools, to provide free and low-cost counseling to youth and their families who could not otherwise participate in therapy.

\$5,000 to Camp Kudzu, a year-round camp program for children with diabetes and their families to teach management skills that will help reduce the risk of diabetes-related complications, as well as improve their attitude about living with the disease.

\$5,000 to the Hope Resource Center in Jefferson to purchase parenting videos and equipment for its Earn While You Learn program, which provides pregnant women, mothers and fathers of babies and toddlers with crucial parenting skills to break the cycle of inadequate parenting, neglect and abuse.

\$3,000 to Gainesville First United Methodist Church Urban Ministry to help fund a summer soccer camp for at-risk elementary school-aged children in the Baker and Glover neighborhoods.

\$5,000 to the Young Women’s Christian Organization (YWCO) to help girls from low-income families attend the Girls Club, a structured recreational and educational summer program targeting young girls ages 5-14 from low-to-moderate income families, and to help defray bus transportation expenses.

Individual Grant Recipients:

\$3,390 to repair rotted flooring in a senior citizen’s home.

\$2,870 to install a heat pump for a senior.

\$1,750 to install a stair lift for a disabled man.



Apartment or Condo? Tips to Help You Save Energy and Money

While renters are rarely able to make major efficiency upgrades, that doesn't mean they can't significantly reduce their energy use. Remember, be sure to check with your landlord to ensure your energy saving changes are things allowed under your lease agreement.

Change Bulbs

An easy way to save energy is to replace traditional bulbs with high-efficiency compact fluorescent or LED bulbs. ENERGY STAR® qualified bulbs use about 75 percent less energy than standard incandescent bulbs and last up to 10 times longer.

Insulate Windows

Rental properties may have older, single-pane windows. Reduce air leakage and add insulation with insulated drapes, blinds or shades. Another option is to apply an insulating clear film from a kit. Even bubble wrap can serve as window insulation.

Reduce Phantom Loads

Consumer electronics can account for 15 percent of your electricity use, and today's electronics

use electricity even when turned off. A simple way to reduce this "phantom load" is to plug televisions, DVRs, computers, printers and other devices into a power strip, so you can turn off the power with the flip of a switch.

Check Your Settings

Keeping your water heater thermostat setting in check will help you save money. On a gas water heater, you can simply turn the temperature setting down to 120°-125° or between "medium" and "warm." Be sure to turn the power off at the breaker before adjusting your electric water heater. Adjust the arrow on the upper thermostat to point to 130°-135° or above "medium." The lower element needs to be set at 120°-125° or between "warm" and "medium." ▲



smartconnections

Projects You Should & Shouldn't Do To Help Sell Your Home

Taking some time to make your home more attractive to buyers before you put it on the market can help bring the best price for your house and a faster sale - as long as you don't go overboard.

First, fix any obvious problems and clean, clean, clean. Obvious problems and grime make buyers wonder what else you've neglected. Fill holes in walls, fix leaks and replace that door handle that's hard to open. If you have a roof leak, get it repaired. If your roof is in obvious need of replacement, it may be worth the investment to do so. Buyers are leery of facing a big repair expense right after buying a new home.

Home sellers sometimes think they'll make more money or sell faster if they completely redo dated kitchens and baths or add a bath. Such expensive projects rarely make back their cost. In addition, major renovations have the potential for taking longer than anticipated. If there's anything that turns off a potential buyer, it's a half-done project.

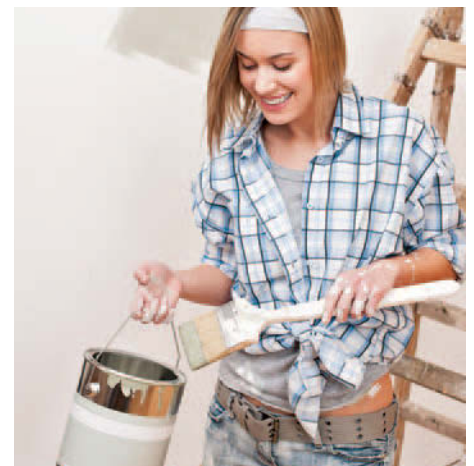
Think facelift rather than major surgery. Relatively inexpensive upgrades such as

painting cabinets and replacing countertops, backsplashes and hardware can do wonders to bring a kitchen up to date. A new vanity and light fixtures can make a big difference to a dated bath.

One renovation with a good track record for return on investment is paint. That purple accent wall may have been perfect for your décor, but a neutral color scheme makes it easier for potential homebuyers to envision living in your house.

Don't underestimate money-saving potential as a selling point. Little energy efficient upgrades such as placing CFLs in light fixtures and installing low-flow showerheads are inexpensive fixes that could save the homebuyer a few energy dollars.

Also, clutter can kill a sale. In addition to keeping the house picked up, consider packing up decorative items, collections and even



some furniture to make your home look larger and more inviting.

Finally, first impressions are important. If your house doesn't have curb appeal, potential buyers may drive by without stopping. It doesn't take expensive new landscaping. Trim shrubbery; pick up debris; mulch beds; and keep walks swept. Add some flowering annuals for color. Paint or even replace your front door and older light fixtures and hardware. Once buyers get in the door, your hard work on the inside can start to pay off. ▲

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what's cookin'?

Cooperative **Cooking**

Each month *Jemco News* features recipes which represent the people and products of Jackson EMC.

If you have a favorite recipe and would like to share it with other readers in the Jackson EMC area, send a copy, complete with name, address and daytime phone number to:

Cooperative Cooking
Jackson EMC
P.O. Box 38
Jefferson, GA 30549

Due to limited space, not all recipes received will be featured. Recipes printed in *Jemco News* are not independently tested; therefore, we must depend on the accuracy of those members who send recipes to us.

Grilled Peach Cobbler à la mode

Ingredients:

6 ripe peaches, halved, pit removed	1 teaspoon ground cinnamon, divided
1 stick (8 tablespoons) unsalted cold butter, melted, plus more if needed, divided	½ cup granola
8 tablespoons light brown sugar, divided	1 pint vanilla ice cream
2 teaspoons vanilla extract	½ cup prepared caramel sauce, heated

Instructions:

Place the peaches cut side down on the grill until browned. Remove from the grill, cut into wedges and place into a gratin dish. To the peaches add half the butter, half the brown sugar and half the cinnamon, vanilla extract and toss. Add the remaining butter, sugar and cinnamon to the granola in a small bowl and toss until combined, adding more butter if needed. Top the peaches with the granola mixture and place the gratin dish onto the grill. Close and bake until the peaches and granola are golden brown, about 15 minutes. Place 1 large scoop of ice cream into 4 bowls and top with the peach mixture. Drizzle with the caramel sauce.