## Join fellow co-op members at the 2016 annual meeting

t's that time of year again; Mitchell EMC is gearing up for the 2016 annual meeting, which will be held April 15, 2016.

The annual meeting is a special time for co-op members to gather, share experiences, hear from co-op leadership and, perhaps most importantly, vote to elect your new board members.

Mitchell EMC employees work hard to host this fun event, and we encourage you to attend and exercise some of the many rights you have as a member of an electric cooperative. We know the food, games and prizes are the best parts of the meeting, but there is so much more to the event.

Your annual meeting is also the occasion to exercise one of the greatest benefits of being an electric co-op member: voting for the upcoming year's board of directors.

Your electric cooperative is not owned by far-away investors, and it is not run by an appointed board of directors. Your electric cooperative is run by a democratically elected board that is given the privilege to serve because of your vote.

So, at this year's annual meeting, not only will you have a blast (and maybe win a prize!), but you will feel good knowing that you had a voice in a very important decision that impacts one of our most vital resources, electricity.

From all of your friends at Mitchell EMC, we hope to see you in April at the annual meeting.

Meghaan Evans writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.









### **A Community Partner Since 1937**



APRIL 11 is NATIONAL LINEMAN APPRECIATION DAY.

#thankalineman



America's electric cooperatives have designated the second Monday of April as National Lineman Appreciation Day.

On April 11, 2016, Mitchell EMC will honor the dedicated men who often work in challenging conditions to keep the lights on. We proudly recognize all electric linemen for the services they perform around the clock in dangerous conditions to keep power flowing and protect the public's safety.

"Our lineworkers are the first responders of our electric distribution system, and they work around the clock on high-voltage lines," said Tony Tucker, President and CEO. "Conditions can be dangerous, but they power through to ensure reliable service for our members."

# How to start saving energy and money

## Three quick tips toward energy efficiency

#### By Paul Wesslund

If you want to celebrate Earth Day on April 22, start by making your home more energy efficient. Below are three efficiency tips from energy expert Brian Sloboda of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

- Look around your home for no-cost ways to be efficient. Close the curtains in the summer and open them in the winter. Turn off your computers overnight. Also turn off video game consoles when they're not being used.
- Look for small steps you can take and DIY. Caulk around drafty windows. Check the attic for the correct amount of insulation. Switch to LED light bulbs. Plant a deciduous tree on the sunny side of your house; in a few years the leaves will cool your home against the sun in summer, then fall off to warm it in the winter. Old cable TV boxes use a lot of energy. If yours is not ENERGY STAR-rated, call your cable provider and ask for a new one. If you have a major appliance like a refrigerator, washing machine or dryer that's more than 10 years old, don't repair it. The energy efficiency of a newer model will likely pay for itself with energy savings in a few years. Before buying any appliance, look for the ENERGY STAR label, and learn to read it and compare products.
- Call Mitchell EMC about energy-saving programs—They may be able to offer advice, appliance rebates or a home energy checkup. You might be surprised to find out what's really driving up your energy costs.

Paul Wesslund writes on cooperative issues for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.

#### **Recipe Correction:**

January's newsletter contained the recipe for Butter Pecan Bars. One ingredient was left out of the ingredient list. Please take note to the first ingredient listed. We apologize for the oversight.

#### **Bar Ingredients:**

2 eggs, beat until thick

1 cup firmly packed light brown sugar

1 cup granulated sugar

1 stick melted butter

1-1/2 cups self-rising flour

1 cup chopped pecans

1 teaspoon vanilla

#### **Icing Ingredients:**

1-1/2 cups 10X powdered sugar 1/2 stick melted butter 1 teaspoon canned milk 1/2 teaspoon vanilla

1/2 cup chopped pecans

## Butter Pecan Bars



Grease a 9" pan and preheat oven to 350°. Add the bar ingredients in order one at a time, folding after each ingredient with a wooden spoon. Bake for 20-30 minutes until firm. You can cut the bars while they are slightly warm. Mix all ingredients for the icing and pour over the cooked bars.

Submitted by: Suzanne Strickland, Mitchell County

## Serving in 14 Southwest Georgia Counties...

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Earth Day is April 22. Give back to the environment by planting a deciduous tree near your home. Deciduous trees lose their leaves during the fall, allowing sunlight to warm your home. The extra shade during summer months will keep your home cooler and give your AC a much needed break.

## **Attention Farmers**Just a reminder...

Mitchell EMC offers a Time of Use rate for irrigation customers. When you sign up for Time-of-Use rates, Mitchell EMC installs a special electric meter that records the date and time, logging all energy used during peak and off-peak periods. Time Of Use (TOU) rates for irrigation systems begins on June 1. The TOU kWh cost is based on the time of day in which it is used. The rate will distinguish between ON-PEAK and OFF-PEAK usage.

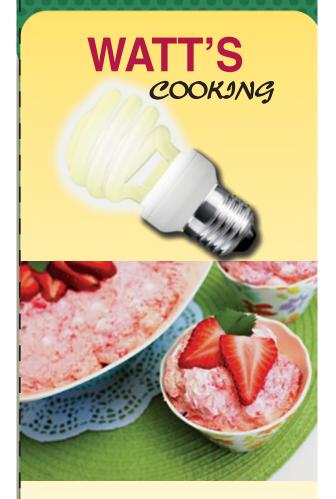
\*TOU rates apply from June 1 - September 30. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at 229-336-5221 or 1-800-479-6034.



<u>Note:</u> If you move or no longer have electric service with Mitchell EMC, it is important that members keep their address current, so that future disbursements can be properly mailed. Capital credits are reserved for members even if they move out of the Mitchell EMC service area. Mitchell EMC will make a diligent effort to send a check by mail.

#### **Statement of Equal Employment Opportunity**

All applicants for employment shall be considered and hired on the basis of merit, without regard to race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), age, national origin, disability, genetic information, or past or present military status. The employment practices shall ensure equal treatment of all employees, without discrimination as to promotion, discharge, rates of pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment, on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, disability, age, genetic information, or past or present military status. M/F/V/DV/D



### **Pink Fluff**

#### **Ingredients:**

1 small box strawberry jello

1 can fruit cocktail

18 oz. carton sour cream

18 oz. tub cool whip

1/2 bag miniature marshmallows

Place fruit cocktail in bowl and add jello, then mix together. Add sour cream and coolwhip. Last add marshmallows and mix together. Refrigerate until time to serve.

## Thanks!

to **Jean Carlton**, Worth County, GA, for sharing this recipe.

## Share & Win!

Send us your favorite quick and easy dinner recipes. If your recipe is chosen for print, you can win a **\$25 credit** on your next Mitchell EMC bill.

**Send recipes to** Heather Greene, P.O. Box 409, Camilla, GA 31730 or email to heather.greene@mitchellemc.com.