




A Touchstone Energy® Partner 

# SPOT LIGHT

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JOEMC Member Newsletter
May 2017

## Area Students Selected for 2017 Youth Tour

Four high school juniors—Elizabeth Coleman, Brittany Gardner, Alyssa Powell, and Jessie Tovar—will be heading to our nation’s capital this summer for a visit. They will represent JOEMC at this year’s Rural Electric Youth Tour in Washington, D.C.



Elizabeth Coleman

Brittany Gardner

Alyssa Powell

Jessie Tovar

The week-long visit in June, sponsored by Jones-Onslow and other North Carolina co-ops, lets our future leaders learn more about government and the cooperative-way of doing business.

Students were selected through an essay contest available at public high schools in our area. An independent panel of judges selected the winners.

Elizabeth, who attends Jacksonville High School, is the daughter of Sara and Daniel Coleman. She is a member of the National Honor Society, the orchestra, the crew of the musical, and is the treasurer of the Tri-M Honor Society. In her spare time Elizabeth enjoys playing the cello and spends a lot of time at the library where she is a member of the Teen Advisory Board.

Brittany is the daughter of Nina and William Horton. She attends Jones Senior High School and is a member of the National Honor Society, student government, HOSA, FCCLA, and the

Junior ROTC. Brittany also is a member of the varsity girls’ basketball and softball teams and loves volunteering and helping others during her free time.

Alyssa is the daughter of Sonia and Lanny Powell. She attends Richlands High School and is a member of the student government, Skills USA, Beta Club, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Alyssa is also a member of the cross country and track teams and enjoys volunteering at the Onslow County Museum and the Semper Fi Fund Kids Camp.

Jessie, who attends Richlands High School, is the daughter of Lorraine and Jesse Tovar. She is a member of the National Honor Society, Battle of the Books, and the Art Club. Jessie says she’s an artist and loves to paint, draw, and create things. She enjoys math, science, puzzles, and loves reading novels. ►

### The 5th Cooperative Principle of 7

**5** EDUCATION, TRAINING AND INFORMATION



Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers and employees so that they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperatives. They inform the general public, particularly young people and opinion leaders, about the nature and benefits of cooperation.

To learn more about all 7 Cooperative Principles visit [joemc.com](http://joemc.com). ►

# CO-OP CONNECTIONS CARD: ALWAYS OPEN

Get **BIG SAVINGS** at **OVER 75 LOCAL BUSINESSES** when you use your **Co-op Connections card.**

# FOR BUSINESS



For a list of local participating businesses visit [joemc.com](http://joemc.com) and click on *THE COOPERATIVE* tab. Go to [connections.coop](http://connections.coop) for other ways to save and to download the mobile app.

## COMMUNITY IMPACT

### A Record Crowd Attends Annual Meeting

A record crowd of well over 1,200 members braved the stormy weather and attended this year's annual meeting on Friday, March 31, at the American Legion Building at the Onslow County Fairgrounds.

Free hot dogs and drinks, giveaways, the business meeting and special entertainment by The Gravy Boys highlighted this year's event.

Attendees were treated to informative and educational displays and a kid's zone featuring Jack the Clown. Outstanding entertainment was provided by the Northside High School Singers and local bluegrass favorite Carolina Connection. The Camp Lejeune High

School Junior ROTC presented the colors before the business meeting.

In addition, door prizes were given away throughout the night with member Dianne Hewitt winning the grand prize, a 2012 Chevrolet Silverado (recently retired from the cooperative's fleet). ▶

### SPECIAL PRIZE WINNERS

43 INCH TOSHIBA LED TELEVISION  
Elizabeth Mathis

COUPLE MARRIED LEAST AMOUNT OF TIME:  
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Carlyle, Jr.

COUPLE MARRIED LONGEST AMOUNT OF TIME  
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Lomax

OLDEST FEMALE MEMBER IN ATTENDANCE  
Francis Price

OLDEST MALE MEMBER IN ATTENDANCE  
Cecil Davis & Joe Klauser



Co-op CEO, Jeff Clark and truck winner Dianne Hewitt.



# ENERGYEFFICIENCY

## Stay Out of Hot Water: Operate Your Pool or Hot Tub Energy Efficiently

While your swimming pool or hot tub can be a great place to unwind, you may tense up again when you get your power bill. There are a few things you can do to keep bills in check...starting with regular maintenance.

**F**or pools, keep the pump and strainer baskets clean and backwash the filter according to the manufacturer's recommended specifications. For hot tubs or spas, be sure to change old or dirty filter cartridges.

Take a look at the pool pump and how you operate it. Make



### Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Keep warm summer air outside where it belongs! Add caulk and weatherstripping to seal air leaks around leaky doors and windows.

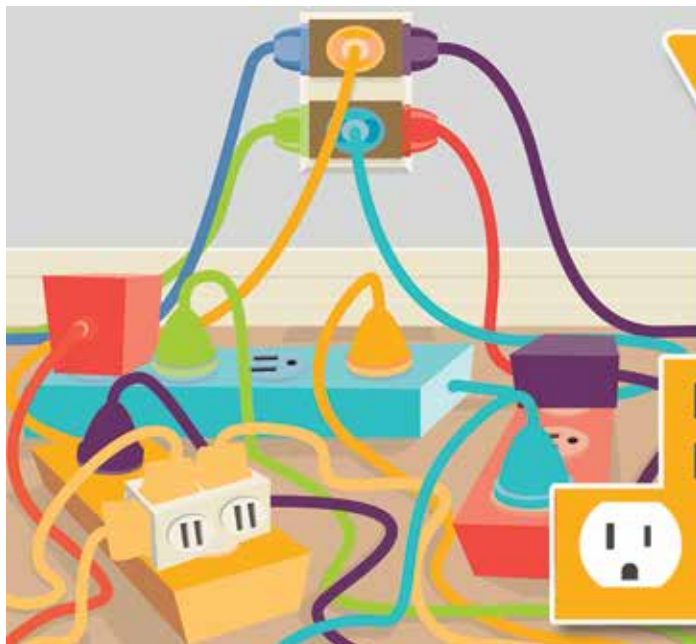
*Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy*

sure the pump is properly sized by a pool professional. And remember, it's more economical to keep the pool clean by manually removing most debris and keeping the chemistry at the right level than by constantly recirculating water. Experts suggest using a timer to operate the pump six hours a day and gradually increase the run time if needed.

Heating can extend the pool season as well so if you do decide to heat your pool, consider an energy efficient heater such as a heat pump water heater or solar pool heater. The cooler you set the temperature, the less energy you use.

To reduce the cost of operating a hot tub or spa, start with an energy efficient model. Make sure your insulated cover is still in good condition and isn't waterlogged. Adding a floating blanket can decrease the amount of heat lost and for energy efficiency, set the thermostat to 96 degrees Fahrenheit during warm weather and no higher than 102 degrees Fahrenheit when it's colder. ▼

# KEEPINGYOU SAFE



**OVERLOADED electrical outlets  
are potential FIRE HAZARDS.**

Visit [joemc.com](http://joemc.com) to see  
more electrical safety tips.

**May is National  
Electrical Safety Month**



plug into safety

## Grid Technology Serves Cooperative Members in New Ways



Technology has spurred big changes to the way we communicate, socialize and do business, and now it's driving changes to the interconnected electric grid and the way we all use electricity.

As your local electric provider, we are excited about that because those changes benefit you, our members. In fact, JOEMC is exploring, researching, and applying technologies that make better use of the grid and serve

cooperative members in new ways. Because the impacts of technology on the grid and industry are happening rapidly, we want to help you understand them and what new benefits JOEMC is bringing to you.

Consider solar energy...it's an emissions-free, renewable resource but it can also be costly and require proper placement. These factors make home solar arrays out-of-reach for many of our members, so many electric cooperatives, including JOEMC, are exploring the possibilities of breaking down the barriers associated with home installations and bringing you an alternative... building community solar farms throughout their service area that bring together hundreds of solar panels and allow members to subscribe to the energy produced by single or multiple panels. By incorporating this solar farm into the energy mix, the cooperatives and their members can participate in the solar energy movement and offset expensive peaks in power usage.

JOEMC implemented another energy-saving technology, Conservation Voltage Reduction (CVR), during 2016. CVR is a power-saving innovation that optimizes voltage during peak-demand times and, in the end, saves the co-op money by helping reduce our wholesale power bill – it can also help put downward pressure on future electric rates. CVR uses equipment that has been strategically placed along electric lines from a substation to monitor voltage levels. Specific equipment, called voltage regulators, control the voltage levels at substations. Because voltage no longer has to be kept higher than necessary at these substations, the co-op can reduce demand during peak-use times of the month when electricity is the most expensive.

Other new technologies bringing change include battery storage, smart meters, electric vehicles and the emerging concept of microgrids.

Today, consumers and power providers are working together to generate, deliver, store and use energy in smarter and more efficient ways. As technology changes what's possible, JOEMC will continue to evaluate trends and incorporate features that will best serve you, while staying true to our purpose: to provide you power at the lowest possible cost and with the highest standard of service.

Jeffery T. Clark | CEO



## Savory Herb & Cheese Monkey Bread

### Ingredients:

- 2 (16 oz.) cans of jumbo refrigerated buttermilk biscuits
- ½ stick butter, melted
- ½ teaspoon garlic salt
- 5 or so different herbs and/or cheeses, as coatings (such as fresh chopped parsley, chopped dill, chopped almonds, grated Parmesan, and shredded cheddar)

### Directions:

Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease a 9- to 10-inch Bundt pan. Stir garlic salt into melted butter. Cut each biscuit in half and roll into a ball. Dip each biscuit ball in butter, then roll in desired coating. Arrange biscuits in the pan so that the various coatings are alternated. Bake for 30 to 35 minutes until biscuits are done and surface is golden. If it's browning too quickly, lay a sheet of aluminum foil on top for the remainder of the baking time. Cool in pan for 5 minutes. Invert onto a plate, then lay serving platter on top and flip bread over onto serving platter so that the attractive side is on top.

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