

Special Washington Youth Tour Issue

Celebrating the Georgia lifestyle

January 2014

GEMC

# georgia<sup>®</sup>

MAGAZINE



**GreyStone Power 2013 Washington Youth Tour delegates**

**Earn free money  
with Cash Back Mall**

# Earning free money just got easier

The days of long checkout lines and crazy parking lots are a thing of the past as more and more people are shopping online. The convenience of "clicking and shipping" has allowed more time for shoppers to do other things within their already hectic schedule.

During the fall of 2011, the My VIP Savings program was introduced as a benefit for members through the Co-op Connections® Card (CCC) program. This program allowed members to earn free cash back when online purchases were made from more than 1,000 of their favorite stores.

Because our members matter, we are always looking for ways to enhance member benefits. We are excited to announce the replacement of My VIP Savings program with the new GreyStone Power Cash Back Mall (CBM)!

As a benefit through the CCC program, you will now be able to shop with more than 5,000 stores, including Bass Pro Shop, Macy's, Walmart, Target and many more, while still earning free cash back on purchases of more than 300,000,000 products.

Whether you are buying gifts for loved ones, booking a trip or treating yourself, CBM can put money back in your pocket. It's just another member benefit brought to you by GreyStone Power.



## Cash Back Mall

No more forgetting to log in to shop or going to a store through a special portal. With CBM, the cash back savings come to you. By downloading the free shopping assistant tool, random surfs through popular search engines like Yahoo, Google and Bing can identify participating stores and the amount of cash back you can receive. The enabled toolbar will allow you to connect to the CBM site at your leisure while also keeping track of your cash back earnings. During the registration for the shopping

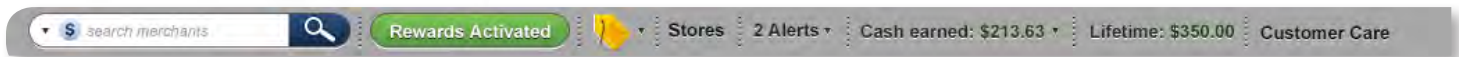


assistant, you will have the ability to choose when and how you would like to receive your cash back—directly deposited into your account, or a printed check, mailed to your address. By selecting which cash out amount you prefer during your account setup (\$15, \$25, \$50 or \$100), you will automatically be set up to receive your cash back without having to request it.

To start earning your cash back, visit [greystonepower.com/cashbackmall](http://greystonepower.com/cashbackmall) and create your account, then click Download Now to get your shopping assistant. The tool bar will appear at the top of your Internet browser and will remain open and active as long as you have it enabled. As you make online purchases at Best Buy, Walmart, Target and other big name retailers, watch the money in your account pile up.

If you currently have a My VIP Savings account, your account will remain active and you can continue to log in, compile cash back and be paid by My VIP. We encourage you to try CBM so you may receive added benefits.

For more questions, contact 770-370-2436 or [ccc@greystonepower.com](http://ccc@greystonepower.com).



# Tired of fighting the crowds?

**Earning cash back is as easy as 1-2-3!**

1. Register 2. Download Shopping Assistant 3. Surf and Shop

Shop at more than 5,000 leading merchants online using the new Cash Back Mall Shopping Assistant through the Co-op Connections® Card program and earn an extra 1-40% cash back!

Find all the ways to save at [greystonepower.com/cashbackmall](http://greystonepower.com/cashbackmall)







# The GreyStone Connection

THE POWER OF MEMBER CONNECTIONS



A LOOK INSIDE: **p. 26B** HOW CAN YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

VOLUME 2 • NUMBER 1 • JANUARY 2014

## Miller's Minute

For 77 years, GreyStone Power has provided safe, reliable electricity at a competitive price. We want to keep doing that for you as 2014 dawns and beyond.

The challenges to our mission continue to grow. We are climbing a mountain of rising costs due mainly to governmental and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) demands.

It will take cooperative members, the EPA and government working together to achieve common sense solutions.

The best way to stay informed is to sign up for email alerts at [www.action.coop](http://www.action.coop). Please go online and open up a channel where you can make your concerns known.

As a not-for-profit co-op, we're not out to make a profit for stockholders. We exist only to serve you, and to be good stewards of your money.

Thank you for allowing us to serve you. Have a blessed and Happy New Year!

*- Gary*

Gary Miller, President/CEO



## Summer trips impact youth for more than half a century

Over the past 56 years, more than 50,000 students have traveled to our nation's capital and experienced a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see the foundation of our country. Electric cooperatives, like GreyStone Power, have invested both time and money into the leaders of tomorrow by offering them the chance to participate in the Washington Youth Tour (WYT).

Each year, high school juniors are recognized and recommended by their school counselors based on their exemplary academic achievements. Last spring, 43 students in the GreyStone service area accepted the challenge to test for a chance to become a WYT delegate and to travel to Washington, D.C., for a weeklong, all-expenses-paid trip, as well as the opportunity to rediscover themselves.

"This trip gave me a great chance to break out of my shell and explore the world," shares Charmi Patel, one of the five 2013 GreyStone Power delegates.

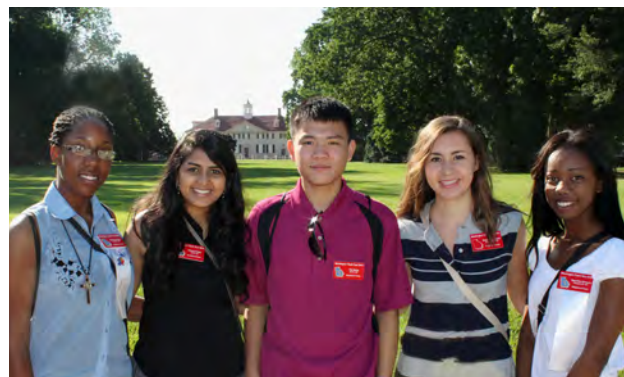
Delegates not only learn lessons in leadership, but also about the electric cooperative movement, American history and how their government works. These students are able to witness our country's history first-

hand as they visit national landmarks, tour the nation's capital and museums, and even have a chance to talk to their local congressman.

"Our congressmen and senators know how to handle themselves in any situation. Through them, I have learned how to handle the tough questions, and that you don't need to please everyone. Simply state your opinion without worrying about political correctness or offending anyone," explains GreyStone delegate, Meaghan Shaughnessy.

In 1957, the vision of the WYT was begun by Sen. Lyndon Johnson. He expressed his desire at the NRECA Annual Meeting to "send youngsters to the national capital where they can actually see what the flag stands for

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**GreyStone's 2013 delegates, from left: Stephanie Pierre, Charmi Patel, Yee Aung, Meaghan Shaughnessy and Maenishia Simmons.**

# WYT delegates

continued from page 26A

and represents.”

Since that time, it has become a primary goal of the WYT to help co-ops promote stonger communities and a stronger nation by giving as many young people as possible the ability to make meaningful, lifelong contributions to their communities.

This year, more than 1,600 students from 42 states attended. GreyStone delegates Stephanie Pierre, Meaghan Shaughnessy and Maenishia Simmons, of Douglas County High School; Charmi Patel, of Hiram High School; and Yee Aung, of Paulding County High School, were among the 106 students representing Georgia.

GreyStone has participated in the WYT program for 47 years. Each year, GreyStone representatives visit participating schools within the service area and present the program to the counselors and the students they have selected as school leaders. Students are given study materials, then are asked to test on that material at the GreyStone office.



“The highest scores win! It’s a simple, but hard process. The students selected by their counselors are the ‘cream of the crop’ from their schools and because of the unique opportunity before them, we want to offer them a challenge. One that they know they have worked hard to earn,” says GreyStone Public Relations and Communications Coordinator Ashley Kramer.

That sense of accomplishment can be seen on the winners’ faces as their names are announced at a banquet in the students’ honor. “The chosen delegates have an exciting road before

them. The leadership potential they are about to experience and the knowledge they will gain on the WYT follow them throughout their future careers and truly will last them a lifetime,” shares Kramer.

With each trip, lives are impacted and changed for the better. Today, WYT alumni, prospective participants and others interested in the program can visit the Youth Tour website, [www.youthtour.coop](http://www.youthtour.coop), to learn about its history or reconnect with fellow WYT alumni.

For information, contact your school counselor or call 770-370-2600.

## Take Action for Affordability

In September, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued new proposed rules limiting carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions of new coal and natural gas-based power plants, which could require the use of carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) or eliminate coal as a fuel source.

Co-ops oppose this rule and feel it should be withdrawn. Co-ops support using a diverse fuel mix, including renewables, natural gas, nuclear and coal to generate electricity, and using demand response and energy efficiency to use that energy wisely and keep costs affordable.

Electric utilities have researched technologies to reduce or capture CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from coal-based power plants for years, and have

experimented with CCS technology specifically. This technology has only been tested in low-level projects, not on a commercial scale at a power plant. According to a 2012 Congressional Budget Office report, engineers estimate that CCS technology would increase the cost of producing electricity from coal-based plants by 75 percent.

Americans concerned about making ends meet may not be able to pay for the significant increases in electric bills. The switch to an all-but-one energy approach would limit Americans’ access to a plentiful and affordable resource.



*GreyStone member Jim Storey, far left, was one of 70 speakers from co-ops to share concerns about the proposed new coal-fired plants regulations at the EPA’s listening session in Atlanta.*

Historically, prices for coal have remained affordable and stable, while other solutions, such as natural gas, have shown a drastic fluctuation in cost.

Protect the affordability of electricity and let your voice be heard. Visit [www.action.coop](http://www.action.coop) and click Take Action to send an email to the EPA.



# Do It Yourself

## Ask the Expert

Solar energy is in the news ... But as a homeowner who is making an effort to save energy dollars, how can GreyStone help?

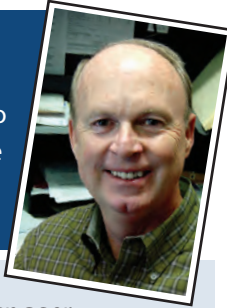
GreyStone encourages and supports the wise and efficient use of electricity, including the use of solar power. With our Photovoltaic (PV) Rebate Program, residential and business members can receive a \$450 rebate for each kilowatt of capacity installed (up to 10 kW per structure) on qualified PV systems. To learn more, contact Director of Commercial Marketing Wayne Glover, who manages GreyStone's photovoltaic program at 770-370-2296 or [wayne.glover@greystonepower.com](mailto:wayne.glover@greystonepower.com).

Members can also benefit through a rebate for installing qualifying solar thermal water heating systems. GreyStone offers a \$500 rebate for systems purchased within the current year or when funds are depleted. Rebates are distributed after installation and inspection by a GreyStone representative. Contact Residential Energy Services at 770-370-2252 or email [paula.musgrove@greystonepower.com](mailto:paula.musgrove@greystonepower.com).

As an owner of Green Power EMC, GreyStone supports renewable energy including biomass (methane gas from landfill garbage, agricultural wastes) generation as well as hydro, solar and geothermal. Our Green Power Program adds cleaner, greener energy to our energy mix and is available for members to purchase in blocks of 150 kWh for a monthly fee of \$5, which funds



Mark your calendar for our next EE101 on April 8, 2014! To register or for more information, call 770-370-2252.



**Rudy Echols**  
Energy Services Manager

research, development and generation of renewable energy. For more information, call Member Services at 770-942-6576.

The high cost of solar applications can create long payback periods for homeowners. Before spending large sums of money on solar, consider less costly energy-saving measures that can be taken. For help, call GreyStone for a free in-home energy audit at 770-370-2252.

For more energy-saving tips, visit [www.togetherwesave.com](http://www.togetherwesave.com). For more information about our rebates, visit [www.greystonepower.com](http://www.greystonepower.com).

## DIY top three

1. Do your research. Conduct a home energy audit to better determine your energy-saving needs. Investigate both short-term and long-term costs of setting up a solar system to see if you will benefit.
2. Sign up for green power to start your solar progression while working on current energy efficiency needs around your home or business.
3. Continue your research and if signing up for solar, take advantage of the rebates offered for solar installations.



## GET EQUIPPED WITH DO-IT-YOURSELF SKILLS AND LOWER YOUR ENERGY BILL

**Tuesday, April 8, 2014,  
6:30-8:30 p.m.  
GreyStone Power Auditorium  
4040 Bankhead Hwy.  
Douglasville**

Seats are limited, so reserve yours now! Seminar is for adults only. No children, please, as they may disturb someone else trying to learn.

For more information about EE101, call 770-370-2252.



[TOGETHERWESAVE.COM](http://TOGETHERWESAVE.COM)



## A day in history

It's hard to believe the majority of GreyStone's service area was powerless 75 years ago. Though lights from Atlanta could be seen in the distance, rural areas remained dark.

Member M. C. Austin of Douglasville shares the memory of when his town prepared to go electric shortly after the Rural Electrification Act passed in 1935. "At that time, we lived in Powder Springs where my dad, Emmett Henry Austin, had worked as a sharecropper for seven years. After giving half of what he made to someone else, he decided there had to be a better way of making a living," said Austin.

"He borrowed money from my grandpa and took a short course in electricity. In the summer of 1936, he wired house after house in the country." At the age of 11, Austin helped his father wire homes with lines that would carry 110 volts. When the voltage capacity was upped to 220, Austin and his father visited the same houses and rewired them so the families could enjoy electric stoves instead of wood stoves.

—Excerpt from "Lighting the Way, A history of GreyStone Power Corporation 1936-2011."



## Pinterest Pick

### CINNAMON CINNABON CAKE

#### Cake Ingredients:

- 3 cups plus 2 tablespoons flour, divided
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 4 teaspoons baking powder
- 1-1/2 cups milk
- 2 eggs
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1/4 cup butter, melted
- 1 cup butter, softened
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1-2 tablespoons cinnamon

#### Icing Ingredients:

- 2 cups powdered sugar
- 5 tablespoons milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

**Step 1:** For the cake, preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease two 8-inch cake pans, lining the bottom with parchment paper.

**Step 2:** In mixer, blend 3 cups flour, sugar, salt, baking powder, milk, eggs, vanilla and 1/4 cup melted butter. Divide batter evenly between two 8-inch cake pans, or into a greased 9"x13" baking pan.

**Step 3:** In another mixing bowl, beat 1 cup butter with brown sugar, 2 tablespoons flour and cinnamon. Continue to beat until fully blended and fluffy (about 3 minutes). Using 2 tablespoons, drop butter mixture onto cake batter. Use a knife to swirl.

**Step 4:** Bake cakes for about 25-30 minutes or until toothpick comes out nearly clean



from the center. Remove from oven and cool in pans for 10 minutes. Flip cakes out onto serving plates.

**Step 5:** For icing, whisk the powdered sugar with 5 tablespoons of milk and 1 teaspoon vanilla extract. Drizzle over warmed cake. Serve warm or at room temperature. Enjoy!

Source: [ladywiththeredrocker.com](http://ladywiththeredrocker.com)

For more fabulous recipes, visit us at [pinterest.com/greystonepower](http://pinterest.com/greystonepower).

These poles stand for something. They bring us reliable, affordable electricity.

They also carry a vision that began back before World War II. These poles rose above the dust of the Great Depression, through blood, sweat and tears.

Today, these poles are yours. And they come to you with a responsibility.

By saving energy, you can build on a dream that started decades ago, ensuring that the spirit on which it was built continues for generations to come.



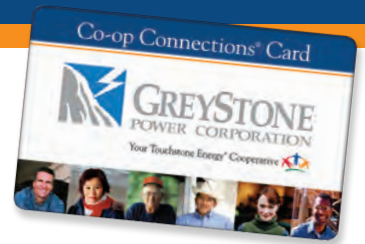
## THESE POLES HAVE ROOTS.



TOGETHERWESAVE.COM



# Welcome new Co-op Connections® Card offers!



## Candlewood Suites Atlanta West

Lithia Springs .....678-238-1980  
10% off best flexible rate.

## Energy Hair Studio & Spa

Hiram .....678-384-0355  
Complimentary Ultimate Treatment and blow-dry with hair cut (\$15 value).

## Appliance Parts & Service, Inc.

Hiram .....678-898-7836  
10% off parts with repair.

## ADA Medical Supply

Austell .....678-398-0505  
13% off retail price for cash items. Not applicable for health care insurance claims.

## LT Pool Service Inc.

Douglasville .....770-949-2295  
10% off in-store purchase; \$100 off new liner install; \$150 off new aboveground pool; or \$200 off new inground pool.

## Yogli Mogli Frozen Yogurt

Douglasville .....678-838-9000  
15% off total purchase.

## Synergy Home Care of NW Atlanta

Hiram .....678-909-3043  
8% off first month of service for new clients (min. of 20 hours per week); free home assessment and emergency medical alarm included.

## Mary Kay Cosmetics: Sherry Pace

Dallas .....678-343-3776  
15% off all orders. Purchase gift card for just \$10 (\$13 value).

## Joe's Crab Shack

Douglasville .....770-947-5991  
One free appetizer (value up to \$11) with purchase of an entrée. Only one good for parties of four. Not valid with any other discount or coupon.

## Crane Institute Certification

Villa Rica .....770-783-9262  
\$10 off initial or re-certification with Qualification & Certification Combo for operators (cranes, Digger Derrick, etc.). OSHA recognized; NCCA accredited.

## Stone Mountain Park

Stone Mountain .....770-498-5690  
Special online pricing for All Attraction Adventure Pass, which includes Stone Mountain Christmas (\$19.61+ tax) and Snow Mountain (\$23 + tax). Visit [www.stonemountainpark.com](http://www.stonemountainpark.com) and enter promo code: *greystonembr* to receive your discounted rate.

## Atlanta's Home Solutions Realty Group

Atlanta .....404-835-2546  
\$100 off home inspection reimbursed at closing.

## Timeless Gifts & Antiques

Dallas .....770-459-2323  
10% discount on each item.

## Classey Comfort Heating & Air, Inc.

Woodstock .....678-445-3002  
\$10 off service call. Serving Douglas, Paulding and Cobb counties.

## Village Pharmacy

Douglasville .....678-501-5165  
10% off over-the-counter purchase or 15% off the purchase of three or more NOW food items.

## Dance Fever Studio

Dallas .....770-443-4445  
Free registration at the time of enrollment (\$25 value); 10% discount on tuition for all adult classes; special ballet and jazz dance technique class for \$35/month (ages 6-12 and 13-17).

## PC Wizard

Douglasville .....770-906-0524  
10% off all labor charges.

## Xpress Ink & Toner

Dallas .....678-324-1891  
10% off purchase; cannot be combined with coupon or other offer.

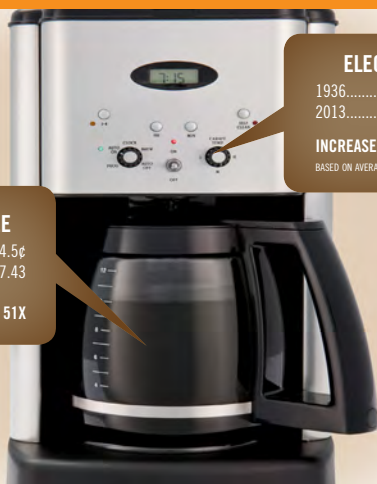
## The Tax Shelter

Dallas .....678-398-9646  
25% off service; cannot be combined with coupon or other offer.

For a complete listing of participating businesses, visit [greystonepower.com](http://greystonepower.com). If you don't see your favorite business listed, tell them about the program. You can refer them to our website for more information or to sign up, or you can forward their contact information, and we can give them a call.

To join, businesses simply complete the participation contract and return to our office via fax or email. For additional questions about participation, call 770-370-2436.

Still don't have a card? Take advantage of the savings all around you by calling 770-370-2383 to request your card.



ELECTRICITY	
1936.....	5¢
2013.....	11¢
<b>INCREASE.....</b>	<b>2X</b>
<small>BASED ON AVERAGE COST PER KILOWATT HOUR</small>	

POUND OF COFFEE	
1936.....	14.5¢
2013.....	\$7.43
<b>INCREASE.....</b>	<b>51X</b>

## HERE'S SOMETHING THAT WILL REALLY WAKE YOU UP.

Keeping energy affordable. Just another way it pays to be a co-op member. Learn more about the power of your co-op membership at [TogetherWeSave.com](http://TogetherWeSave.com).



**TOGETHERWESAVE.COM**

# Offering *convenient* ways to do business

- Enroll in **e-billing**
- **Autodraft** from account (free!)
- Pay **online** or by **phone** 24/7/365
- Pay through **financial institution**
- Switch to **pre-pay** (no deposit!)



At GreyStone Power, members matter. That's why it's important to make the payment process easy for YOU, the member-owner. Take advantage of the **self-service options** above, at your convenience.

Register for online services at [greystonepower.com](http://greystonepower.com). You can pay your bill, monitor your electricity use and sign up for the programs designed **to make your life easier.**



## We want to hear from YOU!

We're looking for testimonials from members using self-service features.  
*email:* [membermatters@greystonepower.com](mailto:membermatters@greystonepower.com)  
*connect:* [Facebook.com/greystonepower](https://www.facebook.com/greystonepower)