# **Power Points** www.diversepower.com

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diversepower

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 🔨



Innovation through vision. Quality through service.

### Welcome to **Power Points**

Starting with this issue, we present to you a redesigned and renamed publication-Power Points. The new name reflects our desire to point our members to more information regarding energy efficiency, our community interaction and important power supply issues.

Power Points continues a 64-year tradition of keeping Diverse Power members informed through our newsletter, originally named The Poster in 1950 and renamed Trends in 1985.

The redesigned newsletter features a monthly column from President/CEO Wayne Livingston; routine reminders of our Co-op Connections Card deals; and a monthly feature rotating emphasis on energy savings, electricity use and safety, and our education initiatives.

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## Tour history, make history, in summer 2014

ttention, high school students. The 2014 Washington Youth Tour (WYT) is set for June 12-19. Don't miss your opportunity to apply for a spot as a Diverse Power delegate on this all-expenses-paid week of leadership learning while exploring sights and sounds of the nation's capital.

"We believe that students should see their nation's capital up close, learn about the political process and interact with their elected officials, and the Washington Youth Tour gives them opportunity to do this," says Diverse Power President/CEO Wayne Livingston.

Since the late 1950s, the nation's electric cooperatives have sponsored this dynamic leadership event.

This year's tour starts in Atlanta with a kickoff dinner and then takes students to Warm Springs to learn about rural electrification history at its birthplace at Franklin D. Roosevelt's Little White House. In Washington, D.C., students experience a jampacked schedule that includes touring the city's iconic memorials, monuments and museums.

Youth Tour alumni have gone on to design airplanes, lead companies and serve in the highest ranks of government, including the U.S. Senate. Often, student delegates on the tour meet former WYT participants who serve as congressional aides on Capitol Hill.

Students who have been on the tour say there are hundreds of reasons to take part. Here are a few:



Diverse Power delegates on the 2013 Washington Youth Tour were, from left, Jade Williford and Grace Curtis, shown here in front of George Washington's home at Mount Vernon.

- Meet teens like you from across the country and take a boat ride on the Potomac River with them.
- Make friends for a lifetime.
- Meet representatives and senators on their turf.
- Stay on the go from early morning until late at night-and love every minute of it.
- Have a great accomplishment to include on your college applications.

To be part of this fun and free week in Washington, ask your high school counselor for more details, or contact Ken Pope at Diverse Power, (706) 845-2000, ext. 347. Applications are due by Feb. 28 and winners will be announced March 31.



### Diverse Power Incorporated, an Electric Membership Corporation

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Power Points is the official newsletter of Diverse Power Incorporated and is distributed monthly to all its members.

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## New year, new members, new challenges

As we enter a new year at Diverse Power, we are busier than ever working to keep our promise to you, our members, as we strive to continue providing reliable, efficient electric power at the lowest cost possible.

One way we're working to meet this goal is by expanding our member-base in order to spread costs. On Dec. 11, our members voted to approve creating a new Diverse Power service district which adds approximately 5,600 accounts, increasing by almost 20 percent our total number of accounts to nearly 34,600. Our new Pataula District includes the southwest Georgia counties of Calhoun, Clay, Quitman and Randolph and parts of Early, Stewart and Terrell.

This opportunity to grow our customer base enables us to spread costs over more meters, which helps us keep rates stable for all members, including our new friends in the Pataula District. We welcome you to the Diverse Power family.

As a not-for-profit, member-owned electric cooperative, Diverse Power not only serves you, our members new and old, but depends on you from time to time to assist in matters that concern your cooperative. In this new year, new challenges are before us, and we ask that you share your cooperative's concerns with our elected representatives.

For years, Diverse Power and more than 800 other electric cooperatives throughout the United States have depended on a mix of power sources, including nuclear power (12 percent), renewable energy (13 percent), natural gas (17 percent) and clean coal (58 percent). Diverse Power advocates for this "all-of-the-above" strategy to keep electric bills affordable.

Meanwhile, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is embracing an "all-but-one" approach that restricts future use of coal to generate affordable electricity. Anticipated governmental regulations would require new coal-burning plants to capture and store carbon



Wayne Livingston President/CEO

dioxide, a prohibitively expensive technology that is not yet commercially viable.

Because of the expense that would accompany these overbearing regulations, Diverse Power and other electric cooperatives oppose such policies that would put at risk our ability to provide affordable and reliable electricity.

We invite you to join us in urging federal and state policy makers to reconsider this "all-but-one" proposal and to work with us on an energy plan that protects the environment while preserving affordable electric service for our members.

To learn more, and to send a message to the EPA to return to its "all-of-theabove" strategy, visit *nreca.coop/politicalaction/cooperative-action network/epa*.

In this new year, we welcome our new members and promise to meet, head-on, our new challenges.



### **Emphasis On:**

### Education

## D.C.'s monuments and memorials: 'You have to see them in person'

or Grace Curtis and Jade Williford, touring the nation's capital as Diverse Power delegates on the 2013 Washington Youth Tour (WYT) was an eye-opening experience.

Curtis, a senior at Callaway High School in LaGrange, and Williford, a 2013 LaGrange High graduate, agree that witnessing the Washington, D.C., sights of government at work and history on display impacted them.

"To fully comprehend the compassion, sorrow, respect and pride that inspired the creation of the monuments and memorials, you have to see them in person," says Curtis, the daughter of David and Marie Curtis, of LaGrange.

A student athletic trainer at Callaway High and active member of Faith Baptist Church, Curtis plans to study political science and pre-law at the University of Georgia with the goal of becoming a lawyer or judge.

"My dream career would be to become a senator in the U.S. Congress," she says. "The Youth Tour gave me an insider's view on working in politics. I already had the spark, but the tour really fanned the flame."

Williford, the daughter of Ken and Teresa Williford, of LaGrange, was production manager of the LaGrange High School Show Chorus last year and now attends the University of Georgia where she is majoring in public relations. Her career plans are to work as an events coordinator or human resources manager, or maybe go to law school, she says.

"It was a really good experience to see where the leaders of our country work every day, to talk to congressmen and ask them about their ideas and policies," adds Williford. "I definitely encourage high school students to apply for the tour."

According to Marie Curtis, the tour gave her daughter opportunity to interact with youth leaders from across the nation.

"It allows young people to get outside the bubble of their own community," she says. "They meet people who may be totally different culturally



but have common ground. It's a phenomenal opportunity for young people."

To apply for the 2014 WYT, visit your high school counselor, or call Ken Pope at Diverse Power at (706) 845-000, ext. 347.

The deadline to apply for the \$1,000 Walter Harrison Scholarship offered by Georgia's electric cooperatives is Jan. 17. Obtain an application from your high school counselor or by calling Ken Pope at Diverse Power, (706) 845-2000, ext. 347. Scholarship winners will be announced in March.

## Annual Meeting set for Wednesday, May 14,11a.m.

he Board of Directors shall appoint, not less than ninety (90) nor more than one hundred and twenty (120) days prior to the date of a meeting of the members at which Directors are to be elected, a Committee on Nominations, consisting of not less than two (2) members receiving service from the Cooperative in each district in which each Director's terms will expire in that year. Directors, close relatives of Directors, or members of any Director's household are disqualified from serving on such Committee.

The Committee shall meet and nominate one or more qualified mem-

bers as candidates for each seat on the Board of Directors that is to be filled at such meeting. The Committee shall report the nominations to the Board of Directors not less than ninety (90) days prior to the meeting at which elections are to be held, and said nominations shall be posted at the principal office of the Cooperative not less than ninety (90) days prior to such meeting.

Other nominations may be made by petition signed by not less than fifty (50) members receiving service from the Cooperative in the district where a vacancy will exist provided that such petition setting forth the nominations are presented to the Secretary of the Cooperative or his nominee not less than sixty (60) days prior to the meeting at which the elections are to be held. Such nominations will be posted at the same place where nominations by the Nominations Committee are posted.

Except in the event that all candidates nominated as provided in this Section are deceased or withdraw in writing from candidacy prior to the election, no other nominations shall be in order. **Community Connections** 

## Vision World: Serving the area since 1976

A locally owned and operated eye care clinic, Vision World opened its first office in Lanett, Ala., on Dec. 26, 1976. Vision World today has three locations: in LaGrange at LaGrange Mall, 1501 Lafayette Parkway; in Valley, Ala., at Village Square Shopping Center, 3418 20th Ave.; and in Auburn, Ala., at Village Mall, 1627-100 Opelika Road.

Highly trained optometrists are onsite to examine your eyes with optimum vision and exemplary eye health in mind.

Vision World's products define the latest in eyewear style for men, women and children. They carry contact lenses, eyeglasses, safety glasses and polarized sunglasses, and offer same-day service on most prescriptions and frame styles as well as frame repair while you wait.

Name brand frames offered at Vision World include, but are not



Vision World has served the area's eyewear needs for 37 years. Welcoming you to their LaGrange office are, seated, Dr. Alex Garrett, optometrist; standing, from left, Deborah Brown and Wanda Loftin, licensed opticians, and Angie Hanners, frame stylist.

limited to, Jones New York, Cover Girl Eyewear, J.G. Hook Eyewear, Nine West Eyewear, Kenneth Cole, Vera Bradley, Juicy Couture and Kate Spade.

For store hours and more information, visit Vision World online at *visionworldinc.com*, email them at *visionworld02@att.net*, or call their offices in LaGrange, (706) 882-8841; Valley, (334) 768-2400; or Auburn, (334) 821-0785.

Vision World has been a Touchstone Energy® Co-op Connections® Card partner with Diverse Power since the savings program debuted in 2007. Vision World's current Co-op Connections Card deal is available at all three of their locations and offers 10 percent off eyeglasses to Diverse Power members who present their card at the time of services.

All of our Co-op Connections Card partners who offer health and fitness deals are listed below.

## Join Co-op Connections!



**T** o learn how your business can become a Co-op Connections Card partner, contact Residential Services/Marketing Coordinator Ken Pope at (706) 845-2000, ext. 347. To sign up as a partner, or to view the complete listing of our Co-op Connections Card deals, visit our website at *diversepower.com*.

### Co-op Connections Card Partners Health and Fitness

Beall Dental Center LaGrange, Ga.....706-882-2597 5% off all services paid in full at time of service.

Crossroad Counseling, LLC LaGrange, Ga.....706-884-4183 10% off first visit.

Fred Jenkins, LLC (rolfing) LaGrange, Ga. .....706-884-4121 10% off first visit.

#### Lakeside Fitness and Therapy

LaGrange, Ga......706-594-6632 For first-time training clients/therapy patients— 15% off first 5 hours training or therapy session package. Includes free consultation/assessment.

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Nia's Way LaGrange, Ga......706-884-4183 10% off first visit.

#### Dr. Charles Pitts, DMD

LaGrange, Ga.....706-882-0591 Free Panorex X-ray (\$115 value).

**Towne Fitness Club** 

LaGrange, Ga.....706-884-4653 Free enrollment with a two-year membership.

#### Vision World Inc.

LaGrange, Ga.....706-882-8841 10% off glasses.