



Electricity Brings Happiness to the Holidays

This story below was taken from an article in the very first newsletter published by Sawnee EMC (then known as Forsyth County Electric Membership Corporation) in December 1940.

There was a farm woman in Georgia who had once lived in the city. When she moved back to the farm, she took with her all the family's electrical equipment, including a string of holiday lights.

But the family farm was far away from the power lines of the local utility company. Sadly, she was forced to store away the electric iron, the radio, the percolator, refrigerator, toaster, holiday lights and other electrical items she had become used to while living in the city. She now ironed with a sadiron and sewed by the kerosene lamp. The



**Sawnee
EMC's Board
of Directors and
staff wish you and
yours a very
Happy Holiday
Season!**

children thought the holidays were very drab without the bright, brilliant electric lights. Eight holiday seasons went by - eight holidays without lights. Then the neighbors got together and organized a cooperative to bring in electric power to their farms... the REA co-op.

The woman was able to get her electric equipment out of storage and once again put it to work. She was full of joy because she knew how electricity could change lives and lift their burdens. And for the ninth holiday season, when she looked at the bright lights, she thought how they symbolized all the good things electricity can bring.

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QUOTABLE QUOTE

And now we welcome the new year. Full of things that have never been."

— Rainer Maria Rilke

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Streetlight Outage? Reporting, Locating and Restoration are a Click Away.

Sawnee EMC maintains over 45,600 streetlights throughout its seven-county service territory. And although we have some of the most robust preventative maintenance programs in the industry...light fixtures, bulbs, ballasts, and wires can fail over time and need to be repaired or replaced.

Our electric meters are designed to automatically notify us of an outage; but **that is not the case with a streetlight...**someone must report any issues with a streetlight. That is where we need your assistance. If you see a streetlight that you feel needs to be repaired, please let us know about it so we can address it quickly.

To report a streetlight outage online, please visit [sawnee.coop/report-streetlight](https://www.sawnee.coop/report-streetlight) and simply complete and submit the online streetlight outage form. If you have not downloaded our free app yet, please take time to do so. Not only can you easily report an outage, but you will have access to billing and payment functions as well as information about the amount of electricity your home or business is using. The app provides a suite of helpful tools designed to make your life easier and provide useful information at your fingertips. To download the Sawnee EMC app, simply search "Sawnee EMC" on the Apple "App Store" or Android "Google Play Store" or visit us at [sawnee.coop/account-access](https://www.sawnee.coop/account-access).

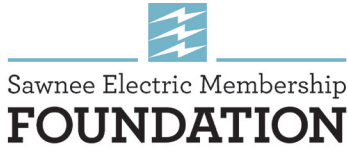
Questions? Please contact our Customer Call Center at 770-887-2363, text 678-999-8124 or chat with us online at [sawnee.coop](https://www.sawnee.coop).



RATED #1
BY THE PEOPLE THAT MATTER MOST —
OUR MEMBERS

Best in Customer Satisfaction with Residential Electric Service among Cooperatives, 2 out of 3 years.

For J.D. Power 2024 award information,
visit jdpower.com/awards.



Supporting the Communities We Serve

2026 Sawnee Electric Foundation Youth Scholarship Reminder

In Spring 2026, the Sawnee Electric Foundation will award scholarships to high school seniors in the Sawnee EMC service area.* To be eligible, a student's primary residence must be served by Sawnee EMC. Applications and criteria are available online at [sawnee.coop/scholarships](https://www.sawnee.coop/scholarships) or through high school counselors. Submit completed applications by 5:00 p.m. on January 9, 2026. Please mail your completed application packet to Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation, Attn: Marketing Department - Youth Scholarship Program, P.O. Box 1174, Cumming, GA 30028 or email scholarships@sawnee.coop. For additional questions on this program, please contact the Marketing Department at 770-887-2363 or via email at scholarships@sawnee.coop.

**Certain restrictions and requirements apply.*

A photograph of a woman and a young girl sitting on the floor in front of a fireplace. The woman is wearing a white cable-knit sweater and holding a red mug. The girl is also wearing a white cable-knit sweater and holding a red mug. They are both smiling and looking at each other. The fireplace is lit with a warm fire. In the top right corner of the image is a circular logo for True Natural Gas, featuring the word "True" in orange and "Natural Gas" in blue, with a blue flame icon above the word "True".

Here's to a bright partnership! Sawnee EMC is thankful for its partnership with True Natural Gas. Consider True Natural Gas to keep your home warm and cozy in 2026.

Sawnee EMC is not a certified natural gas marketer in the state of Georgia, but actively promotes the natural gas services of True Natural Gas, the certified natural gas marketer, as a value added service to its members.

Thank You Sawnee EMC Members for a Great 2025!

As we close another year, the staff of Sawnee EMC wants to say thank you to our members. Your trust and support continue to power everything we do at Sawnee EMC. We look forward to another great year of illuminating homes and fostering community connections. Please visit [sawnee.coop/holiday](https://www.sawnee.coop/holiday) for a special holiday message.



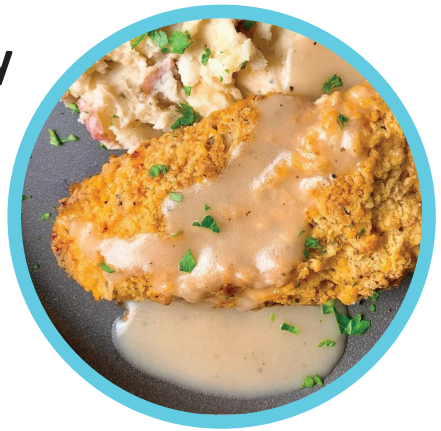
Here's WATTS Cookin' Baked Country Fried Chicken & Gravy

Ingredients for chicken:

2 oz. panko breadcrumbs
2.5 oz. white flour
1/2 Tbsp. garlic powder
1/2 Tbsp. dried parsley
Large pinch black pepper
Large pinch salt
4 oz. butter
4 large chicken breasts, trimmed
and tenderized

Ingredients for gravy:

1 oz. butter
2 oz. white flour
Large pinch pepper
3 oz. chicken broth
24 oz. milk
2 tsp. crushed garlic
Pinch of cayenne pepper



Directions:

Preheat oven to 430° F. Trim and tenderize chicken until they are flat and similar sizes. Melt 4 oz. of butter and transfer to a shallow bowl. In a separate large bowl mix breadcrumbs, flour and the rest of the dry ingredients. Dip each piece of chicken in the butter, one at a time, then immediately into the breadcrumb mixture and coat well. Place onto a wire rack in baking dish. Bake in the oven for 40 minutes or until golden brown. While baking melt butter for gravy in a saucepan over medium heat. Add flour one teaspoon at a time. Stir until consistency is like a thick paste. Add garlic and continue cooking for another minute. In a bowl, combine milk and broth. Add the liquid to the flour mixture a ¼ cup at a time while stirring constantly. Add the cayenne pepper and mix well. Keep warm on very low heat until the chicken is ready.

👉 Thanks to Lauren Crowther for the recipe! Do you have a recipe to share with us? If we print it, we'll credit your account \$5.00. Send your favorite recipe to marketing@sawnee.coop.