

cooperative REVIEW

for members of Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative

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SMECO sponsors 21st regional Computer Bowl

More than 90 young computer experts participated in a contest of knowledge and skill during the 21st Annual Southern Maryland Regional Computer Bowl, held March 6 at Theodore G. Davis Middle School in Waldorf. Sponsors for the Computer Bowl are SMECO, the College of Southern Maryland, Booz Allen Hamilton, and the public

Computer Bowl
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La Plata High School took first place in the Southern Maryland Regional High School Computer Bowl. Pictured from left are team members Matt Koontz, Mike Diley, William Hicks, and Alex Smith, and coach Richard Williams.



Computer Bowl

CONTINUED

school systems of Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties.

Twenty-three teams from 11 high schools in Southern Maryland faced the challenging literacy and programming tests in the Computer Bowl. In the first round of the competition, students took a written test of their computer literacy. In the second round, teams of three to four students created computer programs to solve specific problems, using programming languages such as Java and Visual BASIC. Charles County Public Schools equips each team with two laptops for the programming portion of the competition.

Winners received plaques, trophies, and U.S. Savings Bonds. System Planning Corporation awarded calculator rulers to the team members who placed third and fourth. Booz Allen Hamilton awarded computer backpacks to each of the students in the top two teams, and members of the first-place team also received \$500 performance awards from the College of Southern Maryland.

The second-place winners, from Northern High School, are (from left) Bryan Ek, Eric Butler, Keegan Lee, Mary Beth Kery, and coach Eric Stroh.



The third-place winners, from Huntingtown High School, are (from left) Robbie Jackson, Benjamin Arocho, Bryant O'Brien, and David Lavezzo, and coach Tom Currier.



Nominating Committee to meet in May

The 2010 Nominating Committee—appointed at the March meeting of SMECO’s Board of Directors—will meet on Saturday, May 8, 2010 at 9 a.m. to select candidates for SMECO’s Board. The meeting will be held in the Board Room of SMECO’s Executive Building in Hughesville, Maryland.

Customer-members interested in being nominated by the committee should submit their application by Monday, May 3, 2010, to SMECO, Attention: Joe Densford, Board Attorney; 15045 Burnt Store Road, P.O. Box 1937, Hughesville, MD 20637. Alternatively, a member may submit a petition, signed by any group of 15 or more SMECO members, no later than Friday, July 2, 2010. All candidates, including those running by petition, must complete a Board of Directors Application. To obtain an application, contact Patty Tennyson at 301-274-4489 or patty.tennyson@smeco.coop.

The following Board seats will be open: one in Calvert, two in Charles, one in Prince George’s, and one in St. Mary’s. Board members will be elected at SMECO’s Annual Meeting on Wednesday, September 1.

Selection of Nominating Committee members complies with SMECO’s bylaws. For more information regarding the committee, nominations, and director qualifications, refer to Article IV, Sections 4.02 and 4.03. A copy of the bylaws may be obtained from any SMECO office.

Before you dig, make the call



Call Miss Utility by dialing 811 before you plant a tree or shrub, start a garden, or install a fence. SMECO will mark the location of underground power lines on your property. One call will save you a lot of time, trouble, and money. It could also save your life!

Winners of MATHCOUNTS Competition announced

Over 130 students from 20 middle schools in Southern Maryland tested their computation skills at the 16th annual MATHCOUNTS competition, held at Theodore G. Davis Middle School in Waldorf on February 20.

During the three-hour competition, the middle-school students tackled challenging mathematics problems in a series of exciting rounds. MATHCOUNTS is designed to offer the entertainment level of a sports event and to ignite student interest in the world of numbers.

The local MATHCOUNTS competition is sponsored by SMECO and the Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's county school systems, with the support of the National Society of Professional Engineers. Winners of the Southern Maryland competition will go on to compete in the statewide contest at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. State winners will progress to the national competition held at Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort in Orlando, Florida.



The winners of the target/sprint rounds and countdown rounds.

Left to right: Sydney Feldman of Northern Middle School, first place in the target/sprint round and second place in the countdown round; Matthew Sebacher of Spring Ridge Middle School, second place in the target/sprint round; and Andrew Lee of Leonardtown Middle School, first place in the countdown round.



First-place team, Spring Ridge Middle School.

From left: Zachary Smith, Belinda Chiu, Matthew Sebacher (who also won second place in the target/sprint rounds), Sharlene Chiu, and coaches Gina Clark and Bridget Dunbar.



Second-place team, Northern Middle School.

Left to right: coach Judy Haines, Sydney Feldman (who also won first place in the target/sprint round and second place in the countdown round), Tyrell Howard, Amanda Spyropoulos, and Justin Loos.



Third-place team, Margaret Brent Middle School.

Left to right: Mateo Arredondo, Erik Bazyk, Rachel Villa, Laura Moats, and coach Kevin Mackall.



When it's not in use, unplug it.

Anything with a light on or with a remote control is on 24/7, wasting energy through standby power. This includes chargers, gaming systems, computers and monitors, televisions, microwaves, and more.

around **TOWN**

May 1

Lighthouse Open House

Sponsor: MD Department of Natural Resources

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Point Lookout State Park

Scotland, off Route 5

Self-guided tours of

the lighthouse are

open to the public with

volunteers and Friends

group on site. Admission.

301-872-5688

dnr.maryland.gov

juried local artisans, children's activities, craft demos, great food, entertainment, tours of 1692 church, and more! Rain or shine. Benefits community projects.

410-257-6306

www.allsaints1692.org

8th Annual Plant Sale

Sponsor: Summerseat Farm, Inc.

8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Summerseat Farm

Rt. 235 S, Mechanicsville

There are children's

activities, petting

zoo, manor house

tours, and educational

presentations to upgrade your gardening skills.

Follow signs; free parking and admission.

301-373-5858

www.summerseat.org

May 8

Calvert Wine and Arts Fest

Sponsor: All Saints' Episcopal Church and Southern MD Folkart Center

11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

All Saints' Church

corner of Routes 2 and 4

Sunderland

Features all five Calvert

County wineries,



Visit www.smeco.coop/community/aroundtown for more events.

May 15

Camp Sunshine

Sponsor: Hospice of Charles County, Inc.

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Melwood Retreat Center in Nanjemoy ages 6 to 12.

Camp Sunshine is a one-day camp for children ages 6–12, who are grieving the loss of a loved one. The day is designed to develop a trusting atmosphere so that the children can safely address experiences and feelings related to their grief. If you are interested in having your child attend or would like further information, please call or e-mail to register.

301-934-1268

hospiceofcharlescounty.org

May 22

St. George's Episcopal Church Annual Spring Dinner

Sponsor: St. George's Episcopal Church

1 to 7 p.m.

St. George's Episcopal Church Parish Hall
19167 Poplar Hill Lane
Valley Lee

The menu includes crabcakes, baked ham, chicken salad, St. George's potatoes, green beans, cole slaw, pickled beets, and rolls. There will also be a dessert table and bazaar. Bring this listing and everyone in your party receives \$1 off dinner. Fee.

301-994-0585



Watt an Idea!



Anne S.

A SMECO customer for over eight years, Anne goes the extra mile in cutting down her energy use. One suggestion she had was to put less bulbs in multi-bulb fixtures and to use lower wattage bulbs. “It gives you plenty of light,” she said, but you don’t use as much electricity. Anne also suggests unplugging things when they are not in use. She feels it is an easy enough thing to plug it in when you are ready to use it, and every little bit counts.

If you have an energy-saving tip that could help your neighbors save money on their electric bills, let us know!

E-mail us at jonna.jones@smeco.coop or call 301-274-4482.

Save up to \$12 on a multi-pack of CFLs!

Lighting accounts for up to 20 percent of a home’s electric bill. By switching to more energy-efficient lighting, you can reduce these costs by 50 to 75 percent.

Visit www.smeco.coop/save for updates for retailers in our service area offering the SMECO discount on qualifying ENERGY STAR® compact fluorescent lights.

This program supports EmPOWER Maryland.