

Currently Speaking

**Guernsey-Muskingum
Electric Cooperative, Inc.**
17 S. Liberty St.
New Concord, Ohio 43762
740-826-7661 — 800-521-9879
www.gmenergy.com

Board of Directors

Jim RexChairman
Jay GrayVice Chairman
Shirley StutzSecy.-Treasurer
Ed BayDirector
John EnosDirector
Brian HillDirector
Duane ParksDirector
Daniel J. GunsettCounsel
Jerry Kackley General Manager/CEO

Electric Rates

Farm and Home Service
rate schedule R-1*

Service Availability Charge

\$18/month

First 500 kWh/month

@ 12.769¢/kWh

Over 500 kWh/month

@ 10.645¢/kWh

Seasonal Residential Service
annual rate schedule S-1*

Service Availability Charge

\$216/year

First 800 kWh/year

@ 20.769¢/kWh

Over 800 to 6,000 kWh/year

@ 11.645¢/kWh

Over 6,000 kWh/year

@ 10.645¢/kWh

(Your minimum annual charge will be \$216 per year for service between March 1, 2015, and Feb. 28, 2016.)

Commercial Service
rate schedule C-1*

Service Availability Charge

\$18/month

First 1,500 kWh/month

@ 12.769¢/kWh

Over 1,500 kWh/month

@ 10.645¢/kWh

*Rider T —

Kilowatt-Hour Tax applies to all rate schedules and must be added to the rates shown.

First 2,000 kWh/month .465¢/kWh

Next 13,000 kWh/month .419¢/kWh

Over 15,000 kWh/month .363¢/kWh

Slang through generations

Every generation seems to have developed its own form of slang. In my day, terms like “groovy,” “cool dude,” “far out,” “dream on,” “righteous,” “bogus,” “can you dig it,” “chump,” “don’t have a cow,” “give me five,” “that’s hip” and “good night, John-Boy” could always be heard echoing down the halls of Meadowbrook High School.

To this day, I am still not sure what many of these words or terms actually meant, but I used them anyway. It has always seemed to me that slang serves as some sort of secret language designed to keep the older generation from understanding the intimate conversations that young people want to keep private. The use of slang also enabled the younger generation to express their independence and annoy the “old” people.

My father’s generation was a bit more sophisticated than mine. He and his peers used a more complicated and fascinating form of slang called Pig Latin. I was so intrigued by it when I was younger that I decided to learn this elusive verbiage so I could decipher this secret code language the adults were using. With such knowledge, my powers would be endless!

So I listened to their conversations while I pretended to study or watch TV. I couldn’t Google it because personal computers and cellphones didn’t exist. After months of observations, I gradually began to understand their Pig Latin conversations, and I unlocked the door to a wealth of new knowledge. I soon came to the conclusion that “old” people are just boring and they used Pig Latin to annoy the young people — imagine that!

I have tried to pass my linguistic interests on to the next generation, but I’ve had only minimal success. My fear is that Pig Latin is slowly moving toward extinction, much like cursive writing. Perhaps it will be revived at some point by a generation that can appreciate intellectual slang.

Have a great day — or should I say, “ave-Hay a-yay eat-gray ay-day!”
God Bless



**Jerry Kackley,
General Manager/CEO**

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Be sure to shut curtains, blinds or shades in windows that get direct sunlight on hot, sunny days. The solar heat gained from sunlight shining through windows onto items in the room will greatly increase the load on your air conditioner and the electricity it uses.

Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative membership gathers for 78th Annual Meeting

BEAUTIFUL WEATHER GREETED the 1,500 members and guests who came out for the 78th Annual Meeting of Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative on Saturday, April 11.

Several area organizations were on hand at the Larry W. Miller Intermediate School in New Concord to share information about the services they provide, and there were electrical safety demonstrations and many activities for children.

Before the business meeting, members were entertained by the Yurco Boys. During the business meeting, children were entertained by The Wilds, enjoyed ice cream and received a stuffed tiger.

During the business meeting, members re-elected John Enos and Brian Hill to represent them on the co-op's board of directors.

Jim Rex, chairman of the board, thanked GMEC employees for their teamwork, professionalism and individual efforts to support the membership. Rex also thanked members for attending the meeting and for their continued support of the cooperative.

Rex noted that Operation Helping Others has 4,600 participants and, since 1998, has donated more than \$262,000 to help meet needs in the communities the cooperative serves.



Shirley Stutz, the board's secretary-treasurer, said the cooperative had a good year financially, and members shared \$776,000 in capital credit payments.

"This was the largest amount of any year in our history," she said.

Jerry Kackley, general manager/CEO, reported that wholesale power rates from Buckeye Power, GMEC's electricity supplier, have stabilized following a period of investment in environmental controls at the cooperative's power plants. For the first time in the co-op's history, GMEC members received a one-month rate reduction resulting in a \$10 to \$15 savings for the average member.

Kackley reported that the Obama administration and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are pursuing strict emissions limits on carbon dioxide for new and existing power plants. The rules are expected to be finalized later this summer.

"Your cooperative is very concerned about these regulations," Kackley said, adding that they appear to



be an attempt to eliminate coal as an option for generating electricity. That tactic would likely lead to higher electric bills and cause reliability to suffer.

“Our goals are the members’ goals: making sure members have reliable, safe and affordable electricity,” Kackley said.

Craig Grooms, vice president of market operations for Buckeye Power, explained that Buckeye Power has a diverse mix of generation sources, including coal, natural gas and renewables.

Grooms reported that the EPA’s proposed carbon dioxide rule is an example of regulatory over-reach, and the EPA is attempting to regulate parts of the industry that it doesn’t have authority over. He said carbon dioxide emissions have been decreasing in the U.S. and will continue to do so without any regulations as natural gas plays a bigger role in electricity generation.

Coal is still needed to maintain price stability and ensure a diverse mix of generation sources, Grooms said. He added that the cooperative members did a great job making their voice heard by sending comments to the EPA last year as the agency prepares final versions of the rules.

Several of the cooperative’s young members were honored as winners of scholarships were announced along with the winners of the Rural Electric Youth Tour to Washington, D.C.

The meeting concluded with a number of door prize drawings for appliances and energy credits. ☞



March outage report

During March, there were 2,024 consumer-hours without power. A consumer-hour is one meter without electricity for one hour. Your cooperative has 16,850 meters, resulting in an average of 7.2 minutes per meter. This may be compared to the 2014 monthly average of 15.9 minutes per meter or 4,453 consumer-hours. These are averages, and no meter is average. Some folks had zero outages, while others were out for several hours in March.

Other power outage events were the April and May planned outages for the Chandlersville and Bethel substations. These were late-night planned outages to allow AEP to make repairs to the transmission, or steel tower, system, as required by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

The first planned outage was scheduled from midnight until 6 a.m. on Sunday, April 19. Unfortunately, unforeseen repairs caused this outage to end about 8:20 a.m. Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative, Inc., makes efforts to reroute electricity to as many members as possible based upon available

switches, weather, distribution line capacities and outage timing. Therefore, about 45 percent of those affected saw shorter outages as their electricity was switched to another substation.

The second and third planned outage for the Chandlersville and Bethel substations were scheduled for Sunday, May 3, and Sunday, May 10. Both of these were scheduled from midnight to 6 a.m. This article was written April 22, and we certainly hope that all went as planned.

A final outage note for members is that the emerald ash borer continues to infest ash trees in southeast Ohio. If you see the top of an ash tree die, it is infested, and the entire tree will die in about three years. If you see ash trees dying close enough to fall on a power line, it is better to cut them down early, rather than at 1 a.m. in the winter when you are without power. Please call 1-800-521-9879 and we would be happy to look at the tree with you and make good choices to improve electric reliability.

Ceiling fans can cool electric bills

Ceiling fans have been helping Americans beat the heat for more than 100 years. Philip Diehl, a contemporary of Thomas Edison, is credited with being the inventor of the electrically powered ceiling fan in 1882.



Ceiling fans do not provide refrigerated cooling like an air conditioner. They simply move air in proximity to the fan, which is called convective cooling. It's no different than folding a piece of paper and fanning your face. A few months ago, Mother Nature was dishing out lots of convective cooling. You may recall the weather forecasters cautioning us about frigid wind-

chill factors. Whether produced by wind, ceiling fans or a piece of paper, air moving across our skin will evaporate the moisture produced by our bodies, which makes us feel cooler.

When used correctly, ceiling fans can help lower summer cooling costs and make the air near the fan feel cooler than it actually is. Using them in conjunction with your air conditioner creates a wind-chill effect inside your home. The energy-saving idea is to run your ceiling fan at the speed of your liking and simply raise the set point of the thermostat 3 to 5 degrees. Do keep in mind that your comfort is a personal choice, so the recommended fan speed and

thermostat settings are not set in stone.

During summer, your fan needs to spin counterclockwise in order to push the airflow downward. The opposite, or clockwise, applies for the winter, if you don't mind air movement from a ceiling fan during the heating season.

There is a downside to using ceiling fans. Left on and unattended, ceiling fans are just spinning up your electric bill — they cool people, not rooms. So make sure to turn them off when you leave the room and aren't planning to come back for a while.

Furthermore, an invisible energy-stealing culprit from ceiling fans is heat gain generated from the spinning motor. Remember, the last thing we want in our homes during the summer is additional heat. Unnecessary heat gain makes air conditioners work harder to keep our homes cool. Ceiling fan motors generate temperatures that can reach near 130 degrees. While this operating temperature is normal and safe, it does add heat to your dwelling. Again, turning it off when no one is present will help.

Be sure to visit www.smartenergytips.org or [Facebook.com/SmartEnergyTips.org](https://www.facebook.com/SmartEnergyTips.org) for dozens of energy savings ideas.

ASK YOUR ENERGY ADVISOR



Ray Crook, Energy Advisor

Is your name and location/ account number here?

If it is, call your cooperative's office and receive a **FREE** home change-out to compact fluorescent lightbulbs. (Limit 6 bulbs.) Thanks for reading the GMEC "local pages" of *Country Living*.

#15-0277-40-00 Earl Lowder
 #21-0363-03-04.....Leslie Shumate
 #31-0039-23-09.....Shane G Hensley
 #43-0527-06-02.....Kay Affolter
 #47-0647-21-03Jeffrey A Carpenter
 #65-0020-22-02David J Grissom

*Happy Father's Day from
Guernsey-Muskingum Electric!*

