### **Board of Directors**

Duane Parks	Chairman
Ed Bay	Vice Chairman
Jim Rex	SecyTreasurer
John Enos	Director
Jay Gray	Director
Brian Hill	Director
Shirley Stutz	Director
Daniel J. Gunsett	Counsel
Garry MbiadGeneral Manager/CEO	

### **Electric Rates**

Farm and Home Service rate schedule R-1 Service Availability Charge

First 500 kWh/month

\$15/month @ 11.419¢/kWh

Over 500 kWh/month

@ 9.295¢/kWh

Seasonal Residential Service annual rate schedule S-1 Service Availability Charge

Service Availability Charge

\$180/year

Over 800 to 6,000 kWh/year

@ <u>19.419¢/kWh</u>

Over doo to 0,000 kwii/yed

@ 10.295¢/kWh

Over 6,000 kWh/year

First 800 kWh/year

@ 9.295¢/kWh

(Your minimum annual charge will be \$180 per year for service between March 1, 2010, and Feb. 28,

2011.)

Commercial Service rate schedule C-1

Service Availability Charge

\$15/month

First 1,500 kWh/month

@ 11.419¢/kWh

Over 1,500 kWh/month @ 9.295¢/kWh

Rider T — Kilowatt-hour Tax applies to all rate

First 2,000 kWh/month .465¢/kWh Next 13,000 kWh/month .419¢/kWh Over 15,000 kWh/month .363¢/kWh

# **Co-op Connections Card**

Last month we talked about using the Co-op Connections® Card at your local pharmacy to save up to 60 percent on prescriptions. This month let's focus on local businesses that accept the card. Discounts at local businesses vary and are decided upon by the owners/managers of the business. They can be anywhere from buy one get one free or 20 percent off your purchase. All you need to do is ask or look for more information at our website www.gmenergy.com.

## **Cambridge Area**

Long John Silver's – Cambridge Mary Jane's Cottage – Plainfield Wayne Garage Doors – Cambridge

### **Newcomerstown Area**

April's Country Kitchen - Newcomerstown Baker's IGA - Newcomerstown Bowman Sportswear, Inc. - Newcomerstown

Crowtown Pizza – Newcomerstown Domino's Pizza – Newcomerstown

Hampton Inn – Newcomerstown

Xcel Collision – Newcomerstown

#### **Z**anesville Area

Avis Rent-A-Car – Zanesville Best Western – Zanesville Cabin in the Orchard – Philo Comfort Inn – Zanesville

Dunham's Sports – Zanesville

Linden Lighting and Supply Co. - Zanesville

Long John Silver's - Zanesville

Papa Chucks Restaurant & Catering - Zanesville

Papa John's Pizza - Zanesville

Super 8 – Zanesville

The Barn - Zanesville

Y-City Power Wash & Floor Care SVC - Hopewell

Zanesville Hampton Inn - Zanesville

Be sure to check next month's article on the discounts available for your internet purchases.

Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for a New Year from the Board of Directors and employees of Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative, Inc.

New Concord 740-826-7661

(24-hour service)

All other members 1-800-521-9879

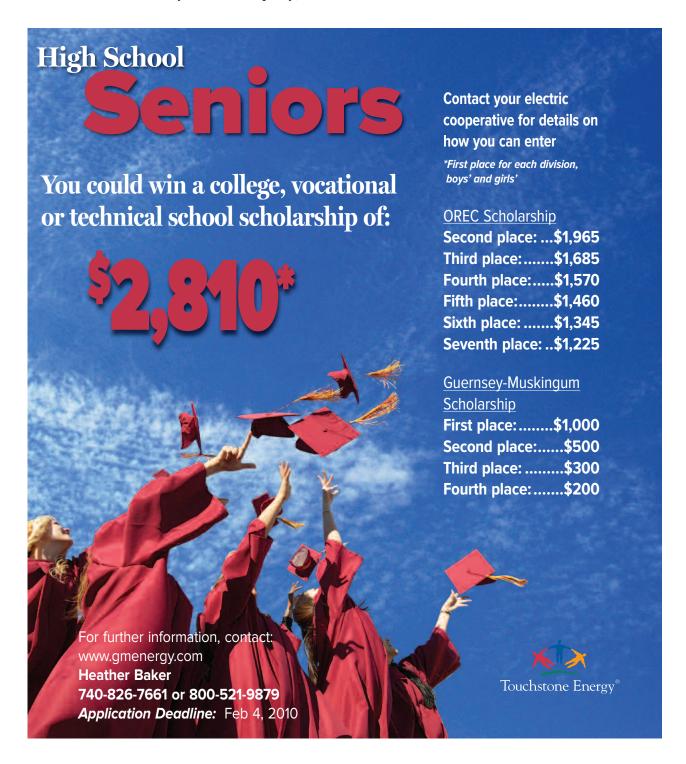
Co-op Connections Card

Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative

# Youth opportunities abound

Guernsey-Muskingum Electric has a long history of supporting its area youth in a variety of activities throughout the year. In this issue you will find three outstanding opportunities that exemplify one of your cooperative's core principles; Commitment to Community: 1) Scholarship Day;

2) Touchstone Energy® Achievement Scholarship; and 3) Washington Youth Tour. You can find more information, including rules and applications about all of these opportunities at our website, www.gmenergy.com, or call Heather Baker at 800-521-9879.



# High School Sophomores and Juniors You could win the trip of a lifetime!

## What is Youth Tour?

It's not just another trip! Youth Tour is an annual contest sponsored by the Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives, Inc., and your local electric cooperative that gives deserving high school sophomores and juniors like you the opportunity to use their knowledge and wit to compete for a FREE week-long trip to Washington, D.C. June 10 to 16.



You'll meet up with nearly 1,500 students from across the country in June if you win. You'll get a chance to meet and talk to congressional leaders from Ohio at the U.S. Capitol, plus you'll get to see all the sights and visit a bunch of really cool places.



## What are the entry requirements?

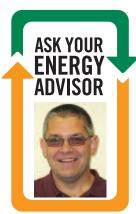
Guernsey-Muskingum will sponsor two students on this trip. To be eligible to compete, you must be a high school sophomore or junior whose parents/guardians are members of Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative.

## How will the finalists be chosen?

For information on how you can be part of this trip, visit our website at <a href="www.gmenergy.com">www.gmenergy.com</a> or call Heather Baker at 1-800-521-9879. Application deadline will be Friday, March 4. All qualified applicants will be interviewed on Wednesday, March 16.



# Will Chrismas lights raise your electric bill?



Ray Crock, Energy Advisor

Several times on recent energy audits, I have been asked, "Will Christmas lights raise our electric bill significantly?" Yes, Christmas lights will raise the electric bill. How significant of an increase depends on many factors. Amount of lighting, hours of operation per day, and number of days connected all play a part in their use. And remember, this use doesn't show up until the January (Nov 15-Dec 15) and February (Dec 15-Jan15) bills. In this tough economic climate that we are in and with ever-rising energy costs, it may be time to rethink your holiday decorating plan.

If you are already having problems paying your bills, your options may be different than someone just wanting to save and be more environmentally friendly. You can save by limiting your lighting to two or three hours per night and perhaps only seven to 10 days before Christmas. Using holiday lighting for seven days at two hours per day would be a 91 percent reduction in electric use versus five hours for 30 days. Homes can also have wonderful Christmas decorations with no lights whatsoever. This can give a very nostalgic or historical effect and be the most "green" choice of all.

For those who want the Christmas lights and can afford to make change, there are some good energy-efficient options, CFLs (compact fluorescent lights) and LEDs (light-emitting diodes). These will lower electric consumption to a fraction of traditional lights use. Here are some typical bulbs used in holiday lighting and their wattage (electric use):

## Cooperative holiday hours

Office closed for Christmas Eve, Thursday, Dec. 23\*

Drive-up window will be open on Thursday, Dec. 23 (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.)

Office closed for Christmas Day, Friday, Dec. 24

\* This is a correction from the co-op calendar. We will be open on Monday, Dec. 27.

Office closed for New Year's Day, Friday, Dec. 31

Drive-up window will be open on Friday, Dec. 31 (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.)

If outages occur during these holidays, someone will be working at the G-M office around the clock to dispatch a trouble crew to correct your problem. G-M's night depository is always available for your Colored flood or spot light 65-150 watts
Incandescent bulbs in lawn ornaments 60-100 watts
C-7 and C-9 strings (larger bulbs) 5-10 watts/bulb
Mini-bulb strings .45 watts/bulb

Their energy efficient replacements

Colored CFL flood or spot lights 15-40 watts
CFL bulbs in lawn ornaments 13-23 watts
C-7 and C-9 LED replacement bulbs .15 watts
Mini-LEDs .045 watts

Does this add up? You bet it does. For example, let's assume the lights are on five hours per day for 35 days plus an extra 25 hours on Christmas Eve and Christmas day. Here are some examples:

2000 mini-bulb strings 180 kWh vs 17 kWh 10 pc lighted Nativity set 120 kWh vs 26 kWh 200 C-7 bulb strings 200 kWh vs 6 kWh

And one more example that I calculated on my own home – We have 18 C-7 window candles on for about 160 days (Nov 15-Mar 15). They are on 12-24 hours per day and may average out to 15 hours per day (2,400 hours total). With 5 watt bulbs, the total consumption would be 216 kWh for the winter. With LED C-7 replacement lamps we would use 6.5 kWh for the winter. That is a savings of about 210 kWh or about \$21.

LEDs do cost more to purchase. However, besides energy savings, they are more durable, last many times longer and one can go out without the whole string going out. They also don't give off heat and are therefore safer.

The following companies offer energy efficient holiday lights and decorations:

Christmas Lights Etc. 866-962-7382 www.christmaslightsetc.com
Service Concepts 877-738-6824 www.energysavers.coop
Bronners 800-361-6736 www.bronners.com
Holiday LEDs 866-492-4330 www.holidayleds.com

# Are your name and location/account number here?

If they are, call your cooperative's office and receive a FREE home changeout to compact fluorescent light bulbs. (Limit 18 bulbs.) Thanks for reading the "local pages" of *Country Living* magazine.

#10-0181-12-00	Robert B. Vernon
#16-0485-21-01	Barbara L. Allen
#28-0034-19-01	Thomas L. Slater
#30-0018-17-03	Doug C. Balderson
#37-0023-08-04	Randy S. Clark
#45-0085-12-04	Ernest Chandler
#49-0045-14-03	E. Dean Baker
<b>#55-0262-19-00</b>	G.I. Wentworth

convenience.