



MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER



Well, it is almost spring, or at least the calendar is telling me it is. Here at Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative, we normally are announcing that the annual meeting is just around the corner. This year, while trying to be as safe as possible and not have large gatherings, we have decided to postpone the annual meeting until July 13, 2021. This event will be held at the Guernsey County Fairgrounds where we all can be outside. We've made this decision for the safety of our membership and employees. We are hopeful that COVID-19 will be under control by that time. There will be more details as we

get closer to the event. Keep safe, and we look forward to seeing you all very soon.

I have delegated the remainder of my space to a longtime management staffer to remember his last 31 years at GMEC. Thank you for the service to this cooperative, Mr. Bennett.



Brian Hill
GENERAL MANAGER/CEO

Farewell

When members read this, I will be retired after 31 years at your cooperative. CEO Brian Hill gave me his space in your magazine this month — thanks, Brian. I will always think of our magazine as *Country Living*.

I like the business model of a cooperative. Money left over after bills are paid does not go to unknown investors on Wall Street. These dollars go to member accounts, then are eventually returned. In 1990, members had to pass away or wait 20 years to see any of these dollars. Today, the co-op is in a stronger financial position, and in December, nearly everyone gets a portion of their funds on their electric bills, just in time for Christmas.

I have seen a change of moving poles out of fields and hollows to along our dirt roads. Why? Lines along roads are better to see in the dark, for clearing trees and to get trucks to for repairs, less walking in the dark and carrying supplies back into rights-of-way for quicker power restoration.

I have seen our office get a rehab. Today there is technology everywhere. We are more efficient, with



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GUERNSEY-MUSKINGUM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CURRENTLY SPEAKING

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a new heating and cooling system, better insulation, more efficient lighting, and windows. We are literally practicing what we preach about energy.

I have seen trucks change from yellow to white, paper maps replaced by GPS, computers on every desk and in almost every truck. The lightbulbs handed out at the annual meeting have gone from incandescent to compact fluorescent to LED. Our office is now without ash trays, and rarely do I see ties or dresses.

The years have been good. I thank the four general managers I worked with. Unfortunately, my red-headed friend, Jerry, passed away. I thank all other employees, board members, and my department — Tim, Heather, and Ray.

Occasionally I still visit my 20-year mentor and coach, Darrel (Cubby to most). Now I will have more time for a cookie and a chat on Darrel's front porch.

Sincerely,
Brian Bennett



We want to hear from you!

Your thoughts and opinions about
Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative help us to serve you better.



In March, April, May, and June, GMEC will be working with NRECA Market Research Services to complete member satisfaction surveys.

The surveys will be both by phone and email, but not everyone will be contacted. If you are contacted, we would greatly appreciate a few minutes of your time to share your opinions of the cooperative.

We strive to provide all members with safe, affordable, reliable, and clean electric service. By participating in the survey, you will help us make decisions that benefit you, your family, and your neighbors.

Thank you!

All information is confidential.



Ray Crock

Three electrifying kitchen appliances to save time and energy

Whether your oven and stovetop are powered by gas or electricity, it's no secret that they consume more energy than smaller countertop appliances, like slow cookers and toaster ovens.

In addition to efficiency, smaller kitchen appliances can provide faster cooking times and less hassle with cleanup.

If you're looking for convenient cooking methods with the added bonus of energy efficiency, here are three electrifying appliances for your kitchen:

1. **Air fryers** are becoming increasingly popular, and consumers have a lot of good things to say about these handy little appliances. Air fryers use convection to circulate hot air and cook the food — this means little to no oil is required, resulting in healthier meals than those from traditional fryers. Air fryers are fairly small, so they won't take up much of your counter space, and with everything cooked in the fryer, cleanup will be a breeze. Air fryers are available in a variety of sizes, and prices range from \$40 to over \$200.

2. **Electric griddles** have certainly been around for a while, and they offer several benefits for any home chef (beyond bacon and eggs!). Griddles are convenient because you can cook everything at once — like a “one-pan” meal, and the possibilities are endless. From fajitas to sandwiches to French toast, griddles can help satisfy any taste buds. They consume small amounts of energy and provide quick cooking times, so your energy bill will thank you. Prices and sizes for griddles vary, but you can typically find one for about \$30.

3. Pizza brings people together, so why not consider a **pizza maker** for your kitchen? These compact, countertop machines are an inexpensive alternative to a costly brick oven, and they use less energy than your traditional oven. Choose your own fresh ingredients to whip up a faster, healthier pizza at home. Plus, most pizza makers are multifunctional and can be used to cook flatbreads, frittatas, quesadillas, and more. You can purchase a pizza maker for about \$30 to \$150 online or at your local retailer.

These are just a few electrifying appliance options for your kitchen. Remember, when you're cooking a smaller meal, countertop appliances can save time and energy. To learn about additional ways to save energy at home, visit our website.

Air fryers circulate hot air (convection) to cook the food. This means little to no oil is required, resulting in healthier meals than those from traditional fryers.

Electric griddles consume small amounts of energy and provide quick cooking times, so your energy bill will thank you.

Pizza makers are compact and inexpensive, and they use less energy than your traditional oven.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF HAMILTON BEACH

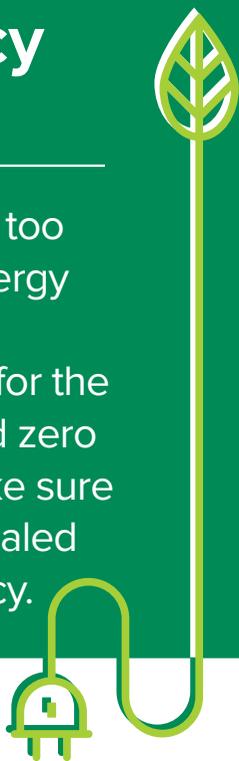




Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Don't keep your refrigerator too cold. The Department of Energy recommends a temperature setting of 35 to 38 degrees for the fresh food compartment and zero degrees for the freezer. Make sure the refrigerator doors are sealed airtight to maximize efficiency.

Source: www.energy.gov



*Guernsey-Muskingum
Electric Cooperative
wishes all of our
members a happy
Easter.*



Is your name and account number here?

If it is, call the cooperative's office and receive a FREE home change-out to LED lightbulbs (limit six bulbs). Thanks for reading the local pages of *Ohio Cooperative Living* magazine.

#60-0673-12-00.....Jacob T Hursey

#50-0356-14-00.....Martin P Charvat

#70-0059-11-00.....Sidney P Richardson

#25-0074-05-02.... Charles R Elson

#32-0229-40-01.....Charles W Hatfield

#40-0139-21-01.....Rex Pennington



GUERNSEY-MUSKINGUM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

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OFFICE

17 S. Liberty St.
New Concord, OH 43762

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

ELECTRIC RATES

Farm and Home Service rate schedule R-1*
Service Availability Charge — \$24/mo.
First 500 kWh/month — 12.669¢/kWh
Over 500 kWh/month — 11.345¢/kWh

Net Metering Residential R-1 NM*
Service Availability Charge — \$42/mo.
First 2,000 kWh/mo. — 11.145¢/kWh
Over 2,000 kWh/mo. — 11.345¢/kWh

Seasonal Residential Service rate schedule S-1*
Service Availability Charge — \$384/yr.
First 800 kWh/yr. — 20.269¢/kWh
800 to 6,000 kWh/yr. — 11.145¢/kWh
Over 6,000 kWh/yr. — 11.345¢/kWh
(Minimum annual charge — \$384/yr. for service between March 1, 2021, and Feb. 28, 2022)

Commercial Service rate schedule C-1*
Service Availability Charge — \$26/mo.
First 1,500 kWh/mo. — 13.069¢/kWh
Over 1,500 kWh/mo. — 11.345¢/kWh

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

First 2,000 kWh/mo. — 0.465¢/kWh
Next 13,000 kWh/mo. — 0.419¢/kWh
Over 15,000 kWh/mo. — 0.363¢/kWh

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