

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

It takes a village...

...to keep the lights on

April 13 was National Lineman Appreciation Day. Linemen around this great country were celebrated for their hard work, dedication, innovation and professionalism. As an “old farm boy,” I can assure you that I often envy our linemen as the trucks leave our parking lot on a warm spring morning. But there are also days when I am content to sit in my warm, cozy office.

For linemen, this is not an option. Their jobs require them to “keep the lights on,” and that can be a difficult and dangerous task. Guernsey-Muskingum Electric’s lines span the hills and hollows of nine counties in Southeastern Ohio, and our linemen are responsible for ensuring that each foot of wire is energized, every pole is standing, and all the transformers and equipment are functioning properly.

Linemen spend countless hours training in their craft, and they must follow strict safety rules and guidelines that can sometimes seem to only slow them down. Linemen must roll out of a warm bed in the middle of the night to answer the call to restore power. They often face some miserable weather conditions. Linemen are first responders for our members. Thank you!

But I would like to go one step further and thank all of the employees and board members of Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative for their dedication to serving the members who rely on us to provide them with electricity every day. Each of us has an important role to fill, and performing our jobs to the best of our abilities is vital to the success of this cooperative. We all rely on each other, and the co-op only functions well when we all work together. I am privileged to be part of a wonderful organization. Thank you!

Finally, I want to thank the families of all of our employees. You sacrifice time with your husband, wife, father, mother, son or daughter so that this cooperative can keep the power flowing to its members. Thank you!

May God watch over each of us, guide our decisions and keep us safe. God bless!



Jerry Kackley,
General Manager/CEO

GMEC introduces new member accounting specialist

Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative, Inc., welcomes Melissa Terrell to the cooperative crew. Melissa began employment in March as a member accounting specialist. She brings work experience from Southeastern Ohio Orthopedics. Join us in welcoming Melissa to the cooperative!



GMEC awards 8 scholarships to local students



Robin Bodner



Peyton Zachrich



Olivia Rhodes



Elliot Start



Hannah Murray



Kordell Stewart



Taylor Wilson



Dalton Tom

EACH SPRING SINCE 1954, Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative, Inc., has sponsored scholarship awards to high school seniors. The cooperative awards two \$1,000 first-place awards, two \$800 second-place awards, two \$500 third-place awards, and two \$400 fourth-place awards, one each in the girls' division and in the boys' division.

On Scholarship Day, Feb. 28, applicants participated in interviews judged by two teams. Judges for the girls' division were Kari Burke, Garry Mbiad and Dorothy Montgomery. Judges for the boys' division were Dr. Howard Beazel, Dr. Barb Hansen and Robert Lahmers.

Points in the competition were given for scholastic record, personal achievement, school and community activities, and a personal interview. Interviews began at 8 a.m. and continued until noon.

Winning the girls' division was **Robin Bodner**, the daughter of Dave and Joy Bodner of Salesville. Robin is a senior at Buckeye Trail High School. She is in track, band and student council and is a member of National Honor Society along with being active in 4-H and her church. Robin will attend The Ohio State University to study orthodontics.

Winning the boys' division was **Peyton Zachrich**, the son of Rob and Tracey Zachrich of New Concord. Peyton is a senior at John Glenn High School. He is a member of the golf team, student council and National Honor Society along with being active in his church. Peyton is undecided as to where he will attend college.

Second place in the girls' division was **Olivia Rhodes**, the daughter of Lee and Cynthia Rhodes of Cambridge. Olivia attends Cambridge High School. Second place in the boys' division was **Elliot Start**, the son of Lynell Hankinson of Newark. Elliot attends Bishop Rosecrans High School.

Third place in the girls' division was **Hannah Murray**, the daughter of Jody and Tammy Murray. Hannah attends Philo School. Third place in the boys' division was **Kordell Stewart**, the son of Howard and Kelly Stewart of Zanesville. Kordell attends Zanesville High School.

Fourth place in the girls' division was **Taylor Wilson**, the daughter of Randy and Tammie Wilson of Norwich. Taylor attends John Glenn High School. Fourth place in the boys' division was **Dalton Tom**, the son of Dana and Debbie Tom of Chandlersville. Dalton attends John Glenn High School.

This year, 25 students from 13 high schools competed for the awards. The seniors participating were:

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| <u>Ambridge Area</u> | <u>John Glenn</u> | <u>Philo</u> | <u>Tri-Valley</u> |
| Ellyn Gazda | Alexia Desender | Hannah Murray | Brock Fargus |
| <u>Bishop Rosecrans</u> | Austin Snyder | Jacob Newlon | Olivia Kerekes |
| Elliot Start | Gabriella Stoner | Reagan Tom | Megan Penrose |
| <u>Buckeye Trail</u> | Dalton Tom | <u>Ridgewood</u> | Nick Slaboden |
| Robin Bodner | Taylor Wilson | Amanda Lowery | <u>West Muskingum</u> |
| <u>Cambridge</u> | Peyton Zachrich | <u>Shenandoah</u> | Bailey Lones |
| Olivia Rhodes | <u>Nordonia</u> | Ariel Watson | Michaila Riley |
| <u>East Richland</u> | Erika Billman | | Olivia Wofter |
| <u>Christian</u> | | | <u>Zanesville</u> |
| Susanna Yourko | | | Kordell Stewart |

Make the SWITCH

Upgrading to efficient lighting can save energy and money

Just as TVs and phones have moved from analog to digital for better sound and picture quality, modern lighting options offer greater energy efficiency. Traditional incandescent bulbs have been phased out in favor of halogen and compact fluorescent (CFL) lights, and thanks to technological advances, light-emitting diodes (LEDs) are becoming more economical for the everyday consumer.

Longevity and efficiency in one

LEDs use only 20-25 percent of the electricity that traditional incandescent bulbs use, and they can last up to 25 times longer, according to EnergySavers.gov, the U.S. Department of Energy's consumer resource website.

LED lights are different from fluorescent and incandescent light sources because they don't contain a gas or filament. Instead, they're small, packed electronic devices where two conductive materials are placed together on a chip, or diode. Electricity passes through the diode, releasing energy in the form of light. Unlike fluorescent lights that require a few minutes to warm up before reaching their full level of brightness, LEDs achieve full illumination immediately.

LEDs are also ideal for outdoor use because of their durability. They're resistant to vibrations, shock, and deterioration from exposure to wind and rain. LEDs also hold up better in cold temperatures than fluorescent lights.

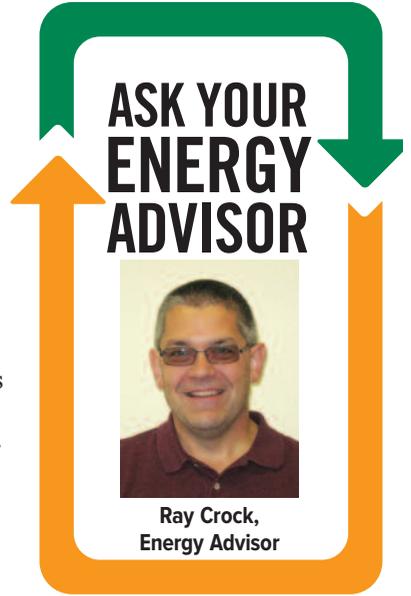
Buy quality for best performance

Just like any other product, there are plenty of good and bad LEDs on the market. If you look for the ENERGY STAR logo on a bulb's packaging, you can be sure you're getting a quality product because they've met higher standards than even the federally set minimum.

The old rule of thumb that you get what you pay for applies here — you might find that cheaper bulbs produce low light levels, burn out quickly or have exaggerated claims of energy savings. Be sure to research before you buy; EnergyStar.gov offers more details about LEDs and tips for buying.

LEDs do generally have a higher up-front purchase cost than fluorescent and incandescent lights, but they are much less expensive to operate over time and last much longer. Look for prices to come down further as the technology advances and more products arrive on store shelves.

Have questions? Talk to the energy experts at GMEC 740-826-7661 to learn about more ways to save energy around the home.



Ray Crock, Energy Advisor

LED lifetime characteristics

Compare and contrast the lifespan and power consumption for the available lightbulb options.

**Source: Energy.gov*

| |  Incandescent |  LED |  CFL |  Halogen |
|--------------------------|--|---|--|---|
| Lifespan (hours) | 750-2,000 | 35,000-50,000 | 8,000-10,000 | 3,000-4,000 |
| Power Consumption | 100 W | 16-20 W | 23-26 W | 70-72 W |
| | 75 W | 9-13 W | 18-20 W | 53 W |
| | 60 W | 12 W | 13-15 W | 43 W |
| | 40 W | 8-9 W | 10-11 W | 28-29 W |

GMEC awards 2 Touchstone Energy Achievement scholarships to area high school seniors

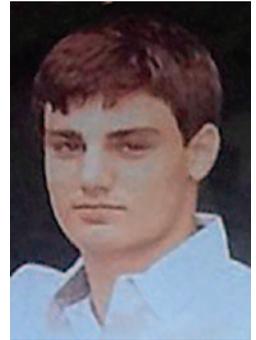


Taylor Wilson

We are proud to announce that **Taylor Wilson** was chosen as the first-place recipient of the Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Touchstone Energy® Achievement Scholarship for 2015. Taylor attends John Glenn High School. She is the daughter of Randy and Tammie Wilson of Norwich.

The second-place award went to **Shane Gardner**. Shane attends Tuscarawas Central Catholic High School. He is the son of Michael and Jennifer Gardner of Uhrichsville.

The Touchstone Energy Achievement Scholarship was created to reward students who have committed themselves to the pursuit of a college education despite unique personal challenges.



Shane Gardner

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 12 bulbs.) Thanks for reading the GMEC "local pages" of *Country Living*.

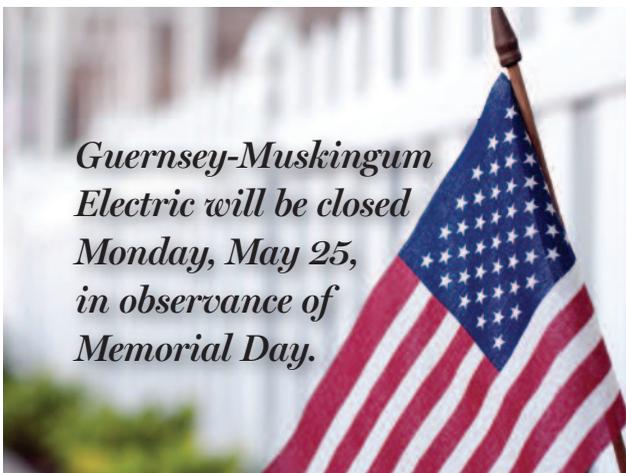
- #53-0599-21-03 Clarence Jennings
- #48-0011-03-00 Lewis St. Clair
- #35-0902-11-00 George E Hickman
- #26-0009-01-00 Wanda Watson
- #18-0917-03-00 R A Browning
- #68-0428-36-00 George F Muffett

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Keep your summer picnic ingredients cold in an ENERGY STAR-certified refrigerator, which is about 9-10 percent more energy efficient than models that meet minimum federal energy efficiency standards.

Source: EnergyStar.gov



Guernsey-Muskingum Electric will be closed Monday, May 25, in observance of Memorial Day.



Happy Mother's Day

from Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative!