



## GUERNSEY-MUSKINGUM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CURRENTLY SPEAKING

### MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

# HATS



I began working at Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative in December 1992. At that time, I was not very familiar with electric distribution cooperatives or their purpose. Since then, I have certainly gained an appreciation for this organization and others like it across this great land. I had worked at other organizations in my earlier career that were much larger, with thousands of employees. So it was a bit odd to switch to the opposite side of the employment spectrum and begin working at a company with only around forty employees. But I am a small-town, country boy, so I welcomed the change.

What I soon found was that I needed to wear many hats at GMEC. My primary focus was keeping the accounting books and records up to date, but if the copier broke, I was “Jerry on the spot” with a screwdriver in hand. I was not alone in my versatility, as every employee was called on to step in and fill a void whenever necessary. Wearing multiple hats is fashionable in the cooperative world.

I was also surprised to learn that I was not alone on my little cooperative island. With twenty-four electric distribution co-ops across Ohio, there was an abundance of resources to draw on whenever I had questions or needed help. The willingness of other cooperative employees to provide assistance was amazing, and I don’t remember one instance when I was told, “Sorry, I can’t help you.” And, if that network wasn’t enough, I could reach across state boundaries to one of nearly nine hundred electric cooperatives across this great nation and get the same neighborly response.

“Cooperation Among Cooperatives” is one of the seven core principles of cooperatives. There is never a more obvious time to see this in action than during major weather events like Hurricane Florence. When North Carolina reached out to Ohio in September, GMEC sent four of our linemen, along with trucks and equipment, to help the members of South River Electric Membership Corporation. South River will reimburse us for our costs, just as we reimburse co-ops that come to our aid in times of need. But we are there for each other when the need arises, and we wear whichever hats are required to get the job done.

I am proud to be a part of such a wonderful organization and a great network. Neighbors helping neighbors makes a strong community, and strong communities helping each other make a glorious nation. Always remember that acts of kindness and compassion bring us closer to God. No matter what hat you wear, that is a good thing.

God bless!

*Jerry*



Jerry Kackley  
GENERAL MANAGER/CEO



## Are your coils clean?

Some recent occurrences at my home reminded me of an important topic to share with you. First, I noticed that grass and dirt had accumulated on my air conditioner. Then I found that my refrigerator/freezer was not keeping the contents frozen and cold. I know soft ice cream is tasty, but too much of a good thing ... well, let's just say I don't want any more for a while. It reminded me that I have not pulled out the refrigerator and cleaned its coils this year.

All items that cool an area work the same way, including refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, and heat pumps. They absorb heat through one coil and expel heat through another coil. To understand how a refrigerator or air conditioner works and why you need to keep the coils clean, you must understand the second law of thermodynamics. That says when two items of different temperatures are near each other, the hotter surface cools and the colder surface warms.

Insulating our houses is important, so that we can slow this heat transfer. However, insulating these coils is not a good thing. That is exactly what dust and pet hair do to your refrigerator/freezer and it's the same with dirt, grass clippings, leaves, weeds, and floating seeds (like thistles) on your air conditioner. Your air conditioner or heat pump also has a coil in your ductwork that can become plugged with dust and pet hair, especially if you don't keep a clean filter on your furnace. These dirty coils restrict the air and inhibit the transfer of heat. I have also seen freezers with the coil placed under the outside wall of the unit. Stacking boxes or bags of stuff against the side of that freezer is just like a dirty coil ... the heat can't get away.

If the coils on a refrigeration or air conditioning unit can't transfer heat, the unit has to run longer to do its job. Longer run time means higher energy use and shorter unit life. Energy use can be as much as 35 percent higher with dirty coils and takes years off its lifetime. Rather than throwing away money, take action and clean the coils.

There are a number of YouTube videos on how to clean your refrigerator or air conditioner coils. Watch several to get a good feel for the process. It's not difficult, but it does take some time. I have cleaned both refrigerators and my air-conditioner in the past. The only coil that I needed a technician to clean was the coil inside the furnace (called the A-coil or evaporator coil) because I couldn't figure out how to get to it.

Take action, save money on electricity, and extend the life of your equipment. Then sit back and enjoy a refreshing, refrigerated beverage in your nice, comfortable home.



## CO-OP NEWS

# Cardinal Plant tour

On Sept. 12, GMEC members traveled to the Cardinal Power Plant in Brilliant, Ohio, to tour the plant and witness the operations of electricity generation. A chartered bus ride and lunch was provided at Mehlman's Cafeteria in St. Clairsville. As a cooperative member, you are an owner of Cardinal Power Plant. If you would like to make the trip next year to see the plant in action, please call the cooperative office at 800-521-9879.



## Holiday Workshop

The Holiday Workshop at Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative is Wednesday, Nov. 7.

We will only be holding one workshop, in the evening from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Guernsey-Muskingum office in New Concord.

This year, there will be great learning opportunities, including hands-on activities. If you would like to attend this fun-filled evening, please call Member Services at 800-521-9879. There is no charge to attend.

Don't miss this opportunity to learn some great tips to help you prepare for the holiday season.

## HAPPY Thanksgiving

Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative's board of directors and employees wish all of our members a happy Thanksgiving.





## GUERNSEY-MUSKINGUM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CURRENTLY SPEAKING

**Veterans  
Day is  
Sunday,  
Nov. 11**  
**Guernsey-  
Muskingum  
Electric  
thanks  
all veterans  
and their  
families  
for their  
sacrifices.**

### Welcome Ken Tolliver

Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative welcomes new employee Ken Tolliver. Ken began employment in September. He will be training with the current operations manager, Ed Wagner, and will be taking over as operations manager upon Ed's retirement in the spring of 2019. Ken



is a graduate of Meadowbrook High School. He is a professional electrical engineer, and he earned his master's degree in engineering management from Ohio University. He brings work experience from Siemens Energy, Basic Systems, and Lear Corporation.

Ken lives in Zanesville with his wife, Chelsea, and their two children. We welcome Ken to the cooperative crew!

### Cooperative holiday hours

- Office closed for the Thanksgiving holiday, Thursday, Nov. 22 and Friday, Nov. 23
- Office closed for the Christmas holiday, Monday, Dec. 24 and Tuesday, Dec. 25
- Office closed for the New Year's holiday, Tuesday, Jan. 1

If outages occur during the holidays, someone will be available to take your call and dispatch a trouble crew to correct your problem. GMCC's drop box is always available for your convenience.

### Is your name and account number here?

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

#51-0717-08-00..... Randall E. Bates  
#26-0018-09-01..... Fred Little  
#45-0067-01-03 ..... Earl Getz  
#29-0369-05-00 ..... Brad McLaughlin

#42-0009-30-06 ..... Amanda J. Powell  
#22-0433-32-00 ..... Jeff Dingey



#### GUERNSEY-MUSKINGUM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

##### CONTACT

800-521-9879 | [www.gmenergy.com](http://www.gmenergy.com)

##### 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 — \$22/mo.  
First 500 kWh/month — 12.169¢/kWh  
Over 500 kWh/month — 10.845¢/kWh

Seasonal Residential Service rate schedule S-1\*  
Service Availability Charge — \$360/yr.  
First 800 kWh/yr. — 19.769¢/kWh  
800 to 6,000 kWh/yr. — \$10.645¢/kWh  
Over 6,000 kWh/yr. — 10.845¢/kWh  
(Minimum annual charge — \$360/yr. for service between March 1, 2018, and Feb. 28, 2019)

Commercial Service rate schedule C-1\*  
Service Availability Charge — \$24/mo.  
First 1,500 kWh/mo. — 12.569¢/kWh  
Over 1,500 kWh/mo. — 10.845¢/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

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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