



Your Touchstone Energy® Partner



currently Speaking

Local Information

GUERNSEY-MUSKINGUM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

17 S. LIBERTY ST., NEW CONCORD, OH 43762
www.gmenergy.com e-mail: mailbox@gmenergy.com

Board of Directors

Duane ParksChairman
 Ed BayVice Chairman
 Jim Rex.....Secy.-Treasurer
 John Enos.....Director
 Jay GrayDirector
 Brian Hill.....Director
 Shirley Stutz.....Director
 Daniel J. GunsettCounsel
 Garry Mbiad.....General Manager/CEO

Electric rates

Farm and Home Service
 rate schedule R-1
 Service Availability Charge
 \$14/month

First 500 kWh/month
 @ 11.419¢/ kWh

Over 500 kWh/month
 @ 9.295¢/ kWh

Seasonal Residential Service
 annual rate schedule S-1
 Service Availability Charge
 \$168/year

First 800 kWh/year
 @ 19.419¢/ kWh

Over 800 to 6,000 kWh/year
 @ 10.295¢/ kWh

Over 6,000 kWh/year
 @ 9.295¢/ kWh

(Your minimum annual charge will be \$168 per year for service between March 1, 2009, and Feb. 28, 2010.)

Commercial Service
 rate schedule C-1
 Service Availability Charge
 \$14/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 schedules.
 First 2,000 kWh/month .465¢/kWh
 Next 13,000 kWh/month .419¢/kWh
 Over 15,000 kWh/month .363¢/kWh

73rd ANNUAL MEETING

SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 2010

Larry W. Miller Intermediate School, New Concord

REGISTRATION AT 10:30 A.M.
BUSINESS MEETING AT 1 P.M.

Mark your calendars now for your cooperative's annual meeting. Join your fellow member/owners in electing members to your board, hearing updates from your cooperative leaders and learning about various programs offered.

As always there will be food, entertainment and demonstrations held throughout the day. There is something for everyone!

Be sure to look for your official invitation with your bill mailed around March 10. And check back in the April issue of *Country Living* magazine for more details on this year's meeting.



Election of directors

The provisions for electing members to the board of directors are included in the Guernsey-Muskingum's Code of Regulations. If you wish, please call your cooperative for a copy or go to www.gmenergy.com. In summary:

- **ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS:** One or more member-consumers are eligible for nomination to each available position on the board. Nominees must reside in the cooperative district they are nominated to represent. All nominations are made from the floor at the annual meeting.

- **VOTING:** Each member shall be entitled to one vote and no more upon each matter submitted to a vote at the meeting. All questions shall be decided by a vote of a majority of the members present at the meeting. The spouse of a member not present may vote on behalf of such member at the meeting.

One director from each of the following districts will be elected for a three-year term:

District 3 – includes Muskingum County townships of Blue Rock, Brush Creek, Clay, Harrison and Meigs; Noble County townships of Brookfield and Sharon; and Morgan County townships of Bloom, Bristol, Manchester, Meigsville and York.

District 5 – includes Tuscarawas County townships of Clay, Oxford, Perry, Rush, Salem and Washington; Harrison County township of Freeport; and Guernsey County township of Wheeling.

New Concord
740-826-7661

(24-hour service)

All other members
1-800-521-9879

Guernsey-Muskingum local information

From the tailgate:

Rate revisions

No one likes rate revisions, especially in these economic times. Here at GMEC over the last year or so, we have tightened our belt by postponing vehicle replacements, eliminated three positions through attrition and bid out our right-of-way clearing program by the mile instead of by the hour. These are some of the larger ways, but there are also many other smaller ways we have stretched your dollars to go further without impacting the reliability of your electric service.

The rate revisions outlined below together will increase the average monthly residential bill by about \$3 per 1,000 kilowatt-hours, or about 2.4 percent.

Unfortunately, the rising costs we have all been experiencing continue to hit your cooperative. Although these rising costs have slowed

recently, only in a few instances have the costs come down. For the most part we are still playing catch-up with our rates.

Your board realizes the financial pressure those of us in southeastern Ohio experience, but also realizes our obligation to provide you with reliable electric service. The service availability charge, which is currently \$14 per month, will rise to \$15 per month effective with the April 10 billing. This is a minimal increase (\$1 per month) and will keep the cooperative's distribution costs stable through 2010. This is the portion of the rate that affects the things the cooperative does locally and **not** that portion which relates to wholesale power costs or high volt-

age transmission costs. Those items are recovered separately through the generation-and-transmission component (GTC).

The GTC, which can change quarterly, has been at the 6.65 cents per kilowatt-hour level for the last three months. It recovers only the costs of generating and transmitting power to a substation to be used by cooperative members. As we look ahead and project the rate for the next three months, the GTC component will increase by 2 mills or \$2 per 1,000 kWh used.



Garry Mbiad,
General Manager/CEO

| Rate Change Summary | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| | Additional Amount | Effective Date |
| Service Availability Charge | | |
| Generation & Transmission | \$1 per month | April 10, 2010 |
| Component Charge | 2 mills | May 10, 2010 |
| Security Lights | No change | |

these increases to minimize their impact on the membership. Our goal is to hold the line on rates as long as possible. Although the cooperative has passed on increases in the past, we have been fortunate to be able to handle most of the rising cost by selling more kilowatt-hours.

GMEC is committed to delivering electricity to you at the lowest possible cost and minimizing the impact of any rate increases. We regret the need to increase rates at this time; however, it is necessary to allow us to continue and improve our programs of maintaining reliable electric service to our membership.

Karaoke singers wanted

Do you like to perform in front of a crowd? Do you compare yourself to Carrie Underwood or Tim McGraw? Or pretend your hairbrush is a microphone or like to sing in the shower? Then we are looking for you!

We are looking for members to perform during a karaoke show at our 73rd Annual Meeting of Members. No experience is necessary. Call now for more information and to set up your time to sing on April 10.



Ask your Energy Advisor

As a member of an electric cooperative, you have access to free energy-savings tips and information that also will help save you money. We also offer free in-home energy audits.

Whether your question is about heating and cooling systems, weatherproofing and insulation, water heaters or other appliances, the Energy Advisor at GMEC can help.

Call your co-op office today to have your questions answered:
800-521-9879



Ray Crock,
Energy Advisor

G-M offers a safe and easy connection for portable generators

If you have or are planning to purchase a portable generator, Guernsey-Muskingum Electric is offering an option for connecting it that is safe and easy. GenerLink™ allows you to provide power to all parts of your home without using extension cords or needing an electrician. We install the GenerLink behind your electric meter as shown in the picture.



behind a member's electric meter and requires no rewiring of the member's electrical system.

With GenerLok, members have the flexibility to run virtually any appliance, up to the capacity of their generator by simply energizing appliances from their breaker panel.

Like many of our products and services to members, we have priced the GenerLink to just cover costs, as our prices include installation.

SAFE

GenerLink eliminates the use of extension cords and other connections that can be hazardous to members and cooperative employees.

GenerLink detects when a generator is operating and automatically disconnects from the utility grid, eliminating dangerous back-feed.

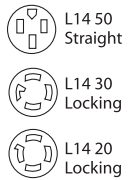
EASY

GenerLink is equipped with GenerLok™, a unique interlocking cord system that provides a quick and easy connection of a portable generator.

GenerLink is easily installed by a cooperative employee

| GENERLINK™ | PRICE |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| 30-Amp Non-Surge Protection (MA23-N)* | \$658.05 |
| 30-Amp Surge Protection (MA23-S)* | \$738.30 |
| 40-Amp Non-Surge Protection (MA24-N)* | \$770.40 |
| 40-Amp Surge Protection (MA24-S)* | \$861.35 |
| *price includes 20' cable | |
| Cables | |
| 40' Cable | \$53.50 |
| 60' Cable | \$107.00 |
| 80' Cable | \$160.50 |
| 100' Cable | \$214.00 |

Please select the GenerLok cord connection that matches your generator.



You can call member services at 800-521-9879 with any questions or to place your order.



Check it out, sophomores and juniors...

Enter to win a trip!

2010 Youth Tour to Washington, D.C.

June 11 to 17

See the treasures in our nation's capital. You can enjoy an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., June 11 to 17 as part of the electric cooperatives' Youth Tour. Visit the Capitol, the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Vietnam Memorial and Mount Vernon, cruise on the Potomac and see many other fascinating places.

You will have a chance to meet and talk with your congressional representative. Best of all, you'll meet other students your age from all across the United States.



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.

For information on how you can be part of this trip, visit our Web site at www.gmenergy.com or call Heather Baker at 1-800-521-9879. Application deadline is Friday, March 5. All qualified applicants will be interviewed on Wednesday, March 17.

RCS Change-out winner

Congratulations to Wanda Herron of Chandlersville. She was the winner of the radio-controlled-switch (RCS) change-out promotion. Wanda called in to get her old style RCS replaced by a newer digital RCS. Her name was randomly chosen from all those who called to have their switches changed before Jan. 1. Wanda will receive a \$50 credit on her electric bill.

Stop by the GMEC booth at the *Swing Into Spring Home Show* and receive three compact fluorescent light bulbs (one box per member, please). You can also recycle your spent, unbroken CFL bulbs at our booth. The home show is Friday, March 12, through Sunday, March 14, at the Pritchard Laughlin Civic Center in Cambridge. We hope to see you there.



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

In these times when budgets are tight, paying attention to your thermostat setting can pay off. Simply setting your thermostat at 68 degrees or lower can save a considerable sum.

For each degree the thermostat is set above 68 degrees, the rule of thumb is that heating costs increase by 3 percent.

For example, at 72 degrees, heating costs are 12 percent higher than a 68 degree setting.

By the same token, turning the thermostat down to 67 degrees from 68 degrees can reduce heating costs by about about 3 percent. Heating costs in a home where the thermostat is set at 65 degrees will be 9 percent less than if it's set at 68 degrees.

The best news? The savings apply no matter what type of heating source the home has.

Are your name and location/account number here?

If they are, call your cooperative's office and receive a **FREE** home change-out to compact fluorescent light bulbs. (Limit 12 bulbs.) Thanks for reading the "local pages" of *Country Living* magazine.

- #10-0031-22-14.....Harold Ridgley
- #21-0388-45-00Rhonda B. Slaughter
- #30-0174-08-00James T. McGee
- #40-0262-12-00James B. Stevens
- #48-0169-26-00.....Herbert L. Hamilton
- #50-0203-18-04Shane G. Kuntz
- #70-0008-02-02.....Danny W. Moore
- #85-0001-11-01Alice Weaver

Touchstone Energy® Achievement Scholarship



Four **\$1,630** scholarships will be awarded

Did you overcome adversity, obstacles or personal challenges on your way to excellence?

Tell us about it and you could win a scholarship!

You must be a graduating high school senior whose parents are members of a Touchstone Energy® Ohio rural electric cooperative.

For further information, contact:

www.gmenergy.com

Heather Baker

740-826-7661 or 800-521-9879

Application deadline: March 10



Touchstone Energy®



Guernsey-Muskingum local information