

NEWS Central

Monthly newsletter from Central Electric Membership Corp.

FEB 2018

POINT OF VIEW

Energy efficiency

ENERGY-SAVING TIPS

Beat Old Man Winter

ELECTEL CFCU

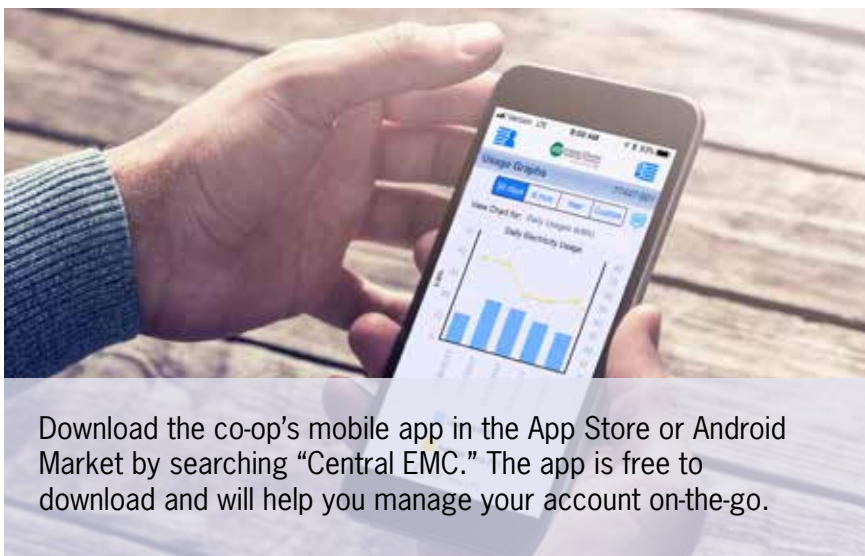
Membership benefits

Stay connected with the new mobile app

On the go and need to quickly access your Central Electric account? Want to check your energy use or make a payment? We now have an app for that.

Since consumers are more mobile than ever, the cooperative is constantly looking for ways to reach members where they are. For most, that means right in the palm of your hand. Over 50 percent of members are now accessing the co-op's website and billing portal from mobile devices.

To make this process much easier and user friendly, a mobile app has been developed and is now available for **free** in both the App Store and Android Market. With our new app, you now have one-touch access to fast, secure account information. You can view bills, account information, payment history, usage data, manage alerts and reminders, make payments and also



Download the co-op's mobile app in the App Store or Android Market by searching "Central EMC." The app is free to download and will help you manage your account on-the-go.

view the outage map.

Don't have an iOS or Android powered mobile device? No worries, we have you covered with a new updated portal that runs right in your device browser, no installation required. It is the same

portal that has traditionally been available through CEMCPower.com, but it now offers the same mobile friendly look as the mobile app with most of the same functions. The only difference is that you can enable push notifications on your phone by downloading the mobile app, whereas the portal does not have this capability.

The new mobile app can be downloaded by searching "Central EMC" in either the App Store or Android Market. Should you have any questions about the app, a dedicated app support page is available under the "Member Services" tab at CEMCPower.com or contact the co-op at 919-774-4900.



- ▶ Applications for 2018 first-quarter Operation Round Up® grant opportunities must be submitted by Feb. 1. Recipients will be announced following the Trust board meeting on Feb. 15.

POINT OF VIEW

Modern world energy efficiency

From the desk of CEO & General Manager Morris McClellion

If you are struck by the amount of screens, remotes, gaming controls, charging stations and cords that have become fixtures in your home, you are not alone. The typical American family is well connected and owns a variety of electronic devices. According to the PEW Research Institute, 95 percent of U.S. families have a cell phone and 77 percent of Americans own a smart phone. Nearly 80 percent of adults own a laptop or desktop computer, while approximately half own tablets.

Consumer electronics coupled with the growing array of smart home appliances and technology have slowly but steadily changed our homes and lifestyles. The increased reliance on our many devices has new implications for home energy use and efficiency.

So how can we save energy when we are using more electronic devices than ever before? The answer may lie with some of those same electronic devices that have become crucial to modern living. In many cases,

energy savings is a touchscreen away as more apps enable you to monitor energy use.

From the convenience of your mobile device, smart technologies allow you to manage electricity use across several platforms, such as controlling your thermostat, appliances, water heater, home electronics and other devices.

“ While modern life involves greater dependence on technology, your best resource for saving energy and money remains your local electric co-op. We are here to provide expertise and help you save money on your energy costs. ”

One of the easiest ways to make an impact on energy efficiency is with a smart thermostat. Using your mobile device, you can view and edit your thermostat schedule and monitor how much energy is used and make adjustments accordingly. For example, program your thermostat for weekday and weekend schedules so you are not wasting energy when no one is home. Check and adjust the program periodically to keep pace with changes in household routines.

You can also ensure efficiency by purchasing ENERGY STAR-certified appliances. Many new appliances include smart-technology features such as refrigerators that can tell you when maintenance is required or when a door has been left



open. New washers, dryers and dishwashers allow you to program when you want the load to start.

Of course there are the time-tested “old school” methods of energy efficiency that can be applied to household electronic devices and screens. Computers, printers, phones and gaming consoles are notorious “vampire power” users, meaning they drain energy (and money) when not in use. If items can be turned off without disrupting your lifestyle, consider plugging them into a power strip that can be turned on and off or placed on a timer.

While modern life involves greater dependence on technology, your best resource for saving energy and money remains your local electric co-op. We are here to provide expertise and help you save money on your energy costs.

Regardless of your level of technical expertise with electronic devices, we can provide guidance. Reach out to us with any of your energy questions.

Until next time,

Morris McClellion

Save money and take the chill out of winter



It's cold, but that doesn't mean Old Man Winter has to put a chill on you or your wallet. Use these tips to help stay safe, warm and save money when the temperatures drop:

- ▶ **Consider installing a programmable thermostat.** This will allow you to set the temperature of your home based on times when you will be home.
- ▶ **Keep it set.** If you are not using a programmable thermostat, keep your thermostat set at 68° F, or lower. This will help ease the burden on your heating unit and save you money in the long run.
- ▶ **Seal your home.** A low-cost option to help keep warm air in your home is caulk. Use caulk around areas that may be leaking cold air from the outside into your home, this will help prevent heat loss.
- ▶ **Layer up.** Wear several layers of lightweight clothing to help stay warm. This will help prevent loss of your body heat.
- ▶ **Remember the 3 feet rule.** If you are using a space heater, make sure you plug it directly into the wall outlet and keep it at least 3 feet from flammable objects. Make sure it is equipped with an automatic shutoff in case the unit tips over.

Students rewarded for classroom efforts

Five outstanding students earned a Visa® gift card for receiving at least one “A” on their recent report cards.

The reward is in connection with Central Electric’s “Give us an A” program.

Local students from kindergarten to college with a grade of at least one “A” are invited to send in a copy of their most recent report card.

Four times each school year, Central Electric will draw from the entries and award a \$25 Visa gift card to four winners with at least one “A” and a \$50 Visa gift card to one winner with all “A’s”.

If you have at least one “A” on your next report card, send in a copy to Janet Jackson at Central Electric by Feb. 23 for a chance to be selected in the next random drawing. Entries can be submitted by email at JacksonJ@cemcpower.com or by mail at Give us an “A,” PO Box 1107, Sanford, N.C. 27332.



**Joshua
Smith**



**Justin
Cleary**



**Jenna
Jones**



**Isaiah
Martin**



**Sydney
Sellers**



Apply for a TESC Scholarship

Central Electric annually awards two Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarships to local students in Chatham, Harnett, Lee, Moore, or Randolph counties.

the upcoming school year, have permission from a parent or guardian to attend the overnight camp and must be able to provide their own transportation if selected to attend.

A young man will be selected to attend the Roy Williams Basketball Camp at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a young woman will be selected to attend the Wolfpack Women's Basketball Camp at NC State University in Raleigh.

To be eligible to apply, the student must be in the sixth, seventh or eighth grade during



Coaches and athletes at both camps will work closely with students to develop fundamental skills like sportsmanship and leadership to help the young athletes excel both on and off the court.

The deadline to apply is March 31. Visit CEMCPower.com to download the applications, or contact Janet Jackson at (919) 708-1638 for more information.



Central Electric
Membership Corporation

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Morris McClellion
CEO & General Manager

DIRECTORS

Rebecca G. Cogan, *President*
Tommy Dalrymple, *Vice President*
James B. Brooks, *Secretary-Treasurer*
W. Phillip Thompson, *Asst. Secretary*
Frank Comer III, Edith C. Cox,
Dr. Nancy G. Holmes, Henry Outz,
Tim Priest and Henry Randolph.

128 Wilson Road, P. O. Box 1107,
Sanford, NC 27331

Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Phone: (919) 774-4900
To report an outage
24 hours a day: (877) 766-6769

James Taylor, *Editor*

This institution is an equal
opportunity provider and employer.

Take advantage of ElecTel CFCU

Did you know that as a member of Central Electric you have access to the cooperative's federal credit union?

The ElecTel Cooperative Federal Credit Union is

open to any member and their family of the 26 electric cooperatives in North Carolina, including Central Electric. Once you join ElecTel, you are an ElecTel member for life, regardless of whether you move outside a cooperative territory in the future.

Anyone can offer financial services, but credit union

membership is unique. Just like your membership in our electric cooperative, credit unions are

governed by the members and everyone has an equal voice. Profits are returned in the form of higher savings rates.



Your Co-op, Your Credit Union.

If you are interested in joining the ElecTel credit union, visit ElecTelCCU.org to start the application process. All you need to do is complete a brief application and submit a minimum deposit of \$1 to take advantage of their great services. You can also contact the branch office at 800-849-5600.