

# NEWS Central

NOV 2019

Monthly newsletter from Central Electric Membership Corp.

## POINT OF VIEW

We are thankful for you

## OPERATION ROUND UP

Supporting local nonprofits

## YOUTH TOUR 2020

Now accepting applications

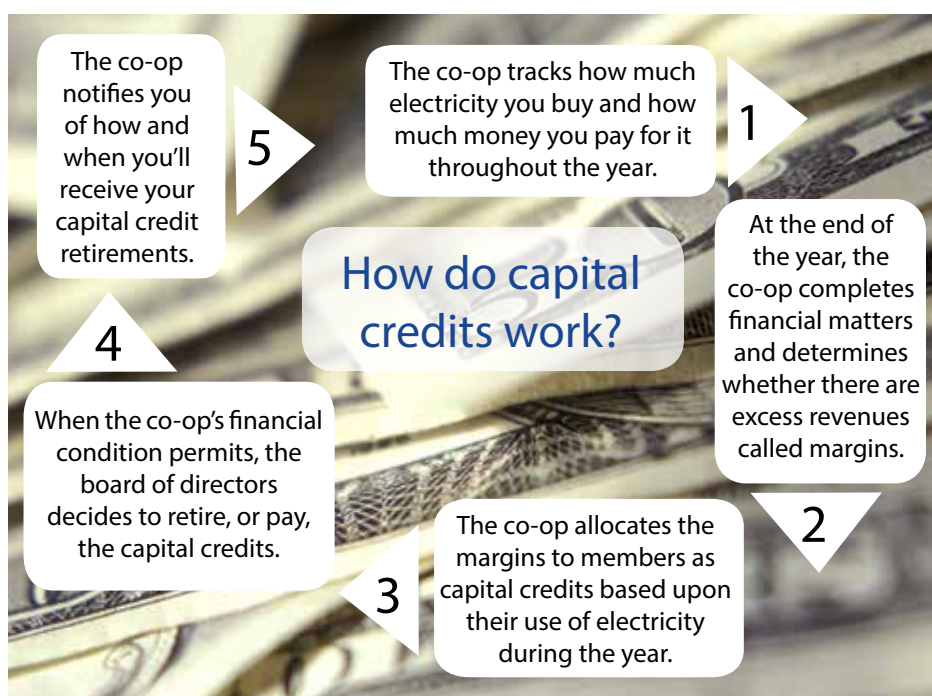
## Capital credit checks coming your way

When you signed up to receive electric service from Central Electric, you became a member-owner of an electric utility.

While investor-owned utilities return their profits back to shareholders, electric co-ops operate as close to at-cost as possible and return any margins back to the members. When the co-op's financial condition permits, capital credits are returned in the form of checks or bill credits.

At this year's Annual Meeting of the Members, CEO & General Manager Eddie Oldham announced a retirement of capital credits approved by the Board of Directors. This year will mark the 11th year in a row that capital credits have been retired. During this time frame, over \$12.2 million will have been returned to members.

This year, the co-op is giving back \$1.2 million and members who received service from the



Since your co-op operates at-cost, any excess revenues, called margins, are returned to members in the form of capital credits. These credits are returned over time based on the co-op's financial condition.

cooperative during 1999 or 2000 will be receiving a capital credit retirement check. Retirement amounts greater than \$25 will be issued a check, while all others will be applied as a bill credit. Look out for your retirement check to arrive by the first week of December.



The CEMC office will be closed Thursday, Nov. 28, and Friday, Nov. 29, for the Thanksgiving holiday. Crews will be on-call.

# POINT OF VIEW

## Thankful for our members

*From the desk of CEO & General Manager Eddie Oldham*

As we quickly approach the holiday season, I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for you, the member-owners of our electric cooperative. Because of your connection to Central Electric, together we are able to make our community a better and brighter place.

I will generally use this column to provide updates on new projects and developments or update you on current events in the energy industry so that all of our member-owners are “in the know” on cooperative initiatives. However, during this season of giving, I think it’s equally important to let you know that we are thankful for you and the impact that you have on our co-op and communities we serve simply by being a member-owner of this cooperative.

As a part of the cooperative business model, one of our core principles is “concern for community.” While our priority is to maintain safe, reliable and affordable energy, we also view the co-op as a catalyst for good in our communities.

“However, during this season of giving, I think it’s equally important to let you know that we are thankful for you and the impact that you have on our co-op and communities we serve simply by being a member-owner of this cooperative.”

We continually partner with local non-profit organizations through our “Operation Round Up” program that is fueled by voluntary donations from you, our members. Since its inception in November 2013, the program has awarded grants totaling more than

\$586,000 to deserving organizations such as the Chatham County 4-H, Helping Hands Clinic of Lee County and the Buddy Back Pack Program, just to name a few.

We also work closely with our local schools to provide opportunities for our teachers and students.

Each year we award \$15,000 in education grants to local teachers to help them foster a creative learning environment for students. We also provide scholarships to deserving students who are attending local community colleges as well scholarships for students to attend the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., and local university basketball camps.



We are also thankful for our co-op board members. Each of these individuals carve out significant time to attend meetings, training sessions and staying abreast of current industry trends. This investment of time results in better informed member-advisors that serve the best interests of the members they represent.

On a more personal note, we also appreciate the countless acts of kindness our lineworkers and employees receive when they are working in severe weather and dangerous conditions. All of your words of encouragement, support and patience is greatly appreciated when we are working long hours during challenging situations to restore power.

So thank you for all you do to make our cooperative and community a better place to live. We can’t do it without you, and for that, we’re thankful for your membership. Together, let’s continue making our corner of the world a better place to live.

Until next time,

*Eddie Oldham*

# Operation Round Up® boosting local groups

Thanks to the Operation Round Up program, powered by voluntary donations from Central Electric members, over \$24,000 is being put back into the local communities to provide assistance for worthy projects. Grants were awarded to the following nonprofit organizations:

**Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Carolina, Inc. (Lee)** – \$3,000 to provide scholarships for children of parents in need of assistance.

**Central Carolina Community College Foundation, Inc. (Lee)** – \$1,000 for the Academic and Cultural Enrichment Series (ACES).

**Five N Two Ministries (Harnett)** – \$3,000 to help purchase food for the pantry.

**Ingram Family YMCA (Lee)** – \$2,000 to help with expenses for books, paper, pencils and other school supplies for children in the Y-Learn program.

**Lee County High School FFA** – \$3,000 to help with expenses



(Back row L-R) Jaslyn Walker, Unit Director, and Elizabeth Colebrook, Resource Development and Marketing Coordinator, accept a grant check on behalf of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Carolina that will be used to provide scholarships to local families.

to send members to FFA Camp at White Lake.

**Lee County Partnership for Children** – \$3,000 to assist with the annual Lee County Child Care Conference.

**Salvation Army of Lee County** – \$3,000 to support the Community Action Targeting Children who are Homeless (CATCH) program.

**Southern Lee Academy of Engineering** – \$3,000 to purchase software and materials to use with a laser machine that will allow students to learn how to design in a virtual reality space.

**Union Pines High School JROTC (Moore)** – \$3,000 to help offset funds for cadets to participate in a trip to Marine Corps Depot in Parris Island, SC.



## We'll keep the light on

As winter draws ever closer, the days continue to get shorter, and we have less time to spend outside.

Maybe you want to play an extra game of basketball. Perhaps you have guests coming over who need to see how to get to your door. Outdoor lighting can add security to your home and also extend the time you have to spend outside.

Central Electric offers several lighting options to meet your needs, including the standard LED model, floodlights, street lighting and the more decorative town and country fixture.

For more information, or to find out how you can add security lighting on your property, visit the "Member Services" tab at [CEMCPower.com](http://CEMCPower.com) or call 800-446-7752 today.



# Apply now for the 2020 Youth Tour to D.C.

Central Electric is seeking applications from high school students willing to participate in the leadership opportunity of a lifetime: The Electric Cooperative Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. Step out of your comfort zone, and join North Carolina's future leaders as they explore the nation's capital.

The Youth Tour allows students to experience Washington, D.C., and learn more about how they can make a difference as young adults. Tourists will visit the Washington Monument, pay their respects at Arlington National



Ever wonder what it's like to walk the halls of the Capitol with members of Congress? Apply now for a spot on the 2018 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., to find out.

Cemetery, meet elected officials and tour Smithsonian museums, all while building connections with peers and future leaders from across the nation.

The cooperative will sponsor two local students to join the June 20-26, 2020 Youth Tour. The all-expense-paid, weeklong

Tour is hosted by electric cooperatives nationwide and is a tradition more than 50 years strong. About 1,800 students from more than 40 states are expected to participate in 2020, and North Carolina's electric cooperatives will send a delegation of nearly 45 students.

Students who will be entering their junior or senior year in fall 2020 are eligible to attend and are encouraged to apply. Applications are due by Jan. 24. Visit [CEMCPower.com](http://CEMCPower.com) to apply or to find out more information on this incredible opportunity.



**Central Electric**  
Membership Corporation

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Eddie Oldham  
CEO & General Manager

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**24 hours a day:** (877) 766-6769

James Taylor, *Editor*

This institution is an equal  
opportunity provider and employer.

## Energy Efficiency Tip

Trim your holiday energy costs by choosing energy efficient LED lights! LED holiday lights use less energy and can last up to 40 seasons. They're also easier to install – you can connect up to 25 LED strings without overloading a wall socket!

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)