

NEWS Central

NOV 2020

Monthly newsletter from Central Electric Membership Corp.

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.

During 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 12 years in a row that capital credits have been retired. During this time frame, over \$13.7 million will have been returned to members.

This year, the co-op is giving back \$1.1 million and members who received service from the

ANOTHER BENEFIT!

- 1 Your not-for-profit cooperative tracks how much electricity you buy and pay for throughout the year.
- 2 At year-end, the co-op's financial statements determine any excess revenues, called margins. (This would be profit in a for-profit company.)
- 3 These margins, or capital credits, are allocated to members' accounts based on their electricity use during the year.
- 4 Central's board of directors periodically returns capital credits, depending on the co-op's financial health.

Look for your portion of \$1.1 million in capital credits coming to member-owners soon! Members receiving a return greater than \$25 will be issued a check, while lesser amounts will be applied as bill credits.



cooperative during 2000 or 2001 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.

NOV. 19 is the deadline to submit report cards for the Give Us an "A" drawing. Four times each school year, Central Electric will 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." Enter at CEMCPower.com.

NOV. 26 & 27 the CEMC office will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday.





POINT OF VIEW

Cooperation among co-ops

From the desk of CEO & General Manager Eddie Oldham

“With over 900 electric cooperatives across the country, this principle is built upon leveraging one of the greatest strengths of the cooperative network; its people.”

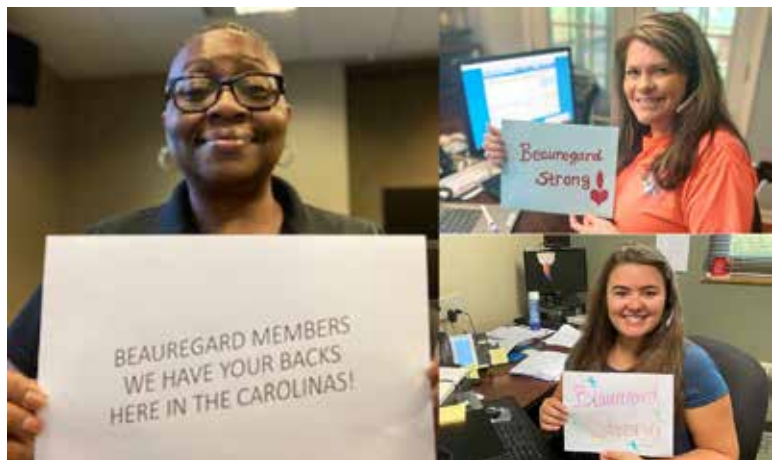
Over the years, you've probably heard us mention "cooperation among cooperatives." This is one of the core principles that sets the cooperative network apart from other types of utilities. With over 900 electric cooperatives across the country, this principle is built upon leveraging one of the greatest strengths of the cooperative network; its people.

During times of need, as well as during the everyday course of business, we are constantly working with our sister co-ops across the state and country. In addition to sharing ideas, new programs, and ways to continue providing the best service for members, storm recovery is when the cooperative network truly shows its strength.

We have been very fortunate over the years to receive help after major storms from other co-ops throughout the southeast, as well as up and down the east coast. Recently, after hurricanes Mathew and Florence, crews came from as far as Alabama and Connecticut to help us restore power.

While we receive help, we are also quick to send help when others are in need. We frequently send crews to other co-ops across North Carolina, and after major storm events like hurricanes, we send crews wherever the help may be needed.

After recent hurricanes Laura and Sally, we aided co-ops along the Gulf coast, but in much different



ways. Following Sally, a group of our lineworkers packed up and headed down to Alabama to aid Baldin EMC rebuild their system, and following Laura, we did something new to us, customer service assistance. Beauregard EMC in Louisiana was completely ravaged by Laura and in the aftermath, their phone system was down for several days. With some quick thinking and dedication from their staff as well as ours, our customer service team was able to field calls from their members for several days after the storm. While a much different type of aid, our CSRs worked day and night to help in any way they could.

We are very thankful for our strong cooperative network and great employees here at Central. We are all stronger together, and always working hard for you, our members. We are #coopstrong.

Eddie B. Oldham

Operation Round Up® boosting local groups

Thanks to the Operation Round Up program, powered by voluntary donations from Central Electric members, \$14,000 is being put back into the local communities to provide assistance for worthy projects. Grants were awarded to the following nonprofit organizations:

Chatham Education Foundation
– \$3,000 to purchase new books for Chatham County students Pre-K through 8th grade for the “Books on Break Program.”

Chatham Trade Inc. – \$3,000 to purchase raised garden beds, soil, shovels, seeds and plants for a community garden to provide employment and training for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Chatham County.

Faces of Chatham
– \$2,000 to help fund Summer



Vincent Schimmoller with the Western Harnett Lions Club accepts a grant check for \$3,000 to be used to support needy families.

Camp requests for economically disadvantaged children.

Salvation Army of Chatham Co.
– \$3,000 for financial support for Comprehensive Clinical Assessments (CCA) of homeless individuals and families needing mental health supportive

services, or other housing assistance.

Western Harnett Lions Club
– \$3,000 to provide food for needy families in the Harnett County area and other essentials to get them through a hard time.

Apply now for the 2021 Youth Tour to D.C.

Central Electric is seeking applications from high school students wanting 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 cooperative will sponsor two local students to join the June 2021 Youth Tour. The all-expense-paid, week-long Tour is hosted by electric cooperatives nationwide and is a tradition more than 50 years strong. Students who will be entering their junior or senior year in fall 2021 are eligible to attend and are encouraged to apply. Visit CEMCPower.com to apply or to find out more information on this incredible opportunity.



Four ways to save energy in the kitchen

Ah, the kitchen. It's undeniably one of the most-loved rooms in our homes. It's where we gather with family and friends for our favorite meals and memories. But like most of us, you probably aren't thinking about saving energy when you're planning that perfect dish. Here are four ways you can save energy in the kitchen with minimal effort.



When possible, cook with smaller appliances. Using smaller kitchen appliances, like slow cookers, toaster ovens and convection ovens, are more energy efficient than using your large stove or oven. According to the Department of Energy, a toaster or convection oven uses one-third to one-half as much energy as a full-sized oven.

Unplug appliances that draw phantom energy load. Halloween may be over, but it's possible you have energy vampires in your kitchen – these are the appliances that draw energy even when they're not in use, like coffee makers, microwaves and toaster ovens. The Department of Energy has estimated that one home's energy vampires left plugged in year-round can add up to \$100-\$200 in wasted energy costs. Unplug them when they're not in use, or better yet, use a power strip for convenient control.

Help large appliances work less. There are small ways you can help your larger kitchen appliances

run more efficiently. For example, keep range-top burners clean from spills and fallen foods so they'll reflect heat better. When it's time to put leftovers in the refrigerator, make sure the food is covered and allow it to cool down first. That way, the fridge doesn't have to work harder to cool warm food.

Use your dishwasher efficiently. Only run full loads, and avoid using the "rinse hold" function on your machine for just a few dirty dishes; it uses 3-7 gallons of hot water each use. You can also save energy by letting your dishes air dry. If your dishwasher doesn't have an automatic air-dry switch, simply turn it off after the final rinse and prop the door open so the dishes will dry faster.

Bonus tip: The best way to save energy is to not use it. Try a tasty, no-bake dessert recipe. Your sweet tooth (and energy bill!) will thank you.

By slightly adjusting a few of your habits in the kitchen, you'll be well on your way to energy savings. Visit CEMCPower.com to learn about additional ways you can save energy and money.



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

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

CONTACT

Phone: (919) 774-4900
Bill Payment: (866) 488-5011

Eddie Oldham
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.

James Taylor, *Editor*

*This institution is an equal
opportunity provider and employer.*

OUTAGE REPORTING



(877) 766-6769
24-hours a day



(800) 446-7752
Text 'PWR' to opt-in and
'OUT' to report an outage

FOLLOW US



CEMCPower.com



[@cemcpower](https://www.facebook.com/cemcpower)