

Inside: Learn How To ...

Apply for a \$1,000
Scholarship

Keep Out the Cold with
Weather Stripping

Safely Run Your
Generator

PowerLines

“Watts” Inside

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The Good Neighbor Scholarship is Back!

Central Electric Cooperative is proud to announce its third annual Good Neighbor Scholarship awards program. Scholarships are available to all members. Adults wishing to return to the classroom are eligible to apply. Minimum applicant age requirements begin with high school seniors and extend to non-traditional students. A total of 15 scholarships worth \$1,000 each will be awarded in early May of 2010.

Eligibility requirements:

- Central Electric Cooperative member
- Enrolled in post-secondary educational institution
- Complete an application
- Submit one-page community contribution essay and letter of recommendation
- Provide financial information
- Submit by March 15, 2010



The Good Neighbor Scholarship program does not cost our members anything and is made possible as a result of Act 187 approved by the Pennsylvania legislature in November of 2006. The act permits Pennsylvania electric cooperatives to retain unclaimed capital credit patronage that were previously sent back (escheated) to the state treasury. All funds must be utilized to improve rural Pennsylvania life in areas of education and energy assistance.

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The Good Neighbor Scholarship is just one example of our Touchstone Energy commitment to community.

For more information on requirement guidelines and application forms please visit www.central.coop or call us at 800-521-0570.

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Keep Out the Cold with Weather Stripping

No mistaking it: winter has arrived. Any drafts around doors and windows that went unnoticed during fall are now downright uncomfortable — and adding to your energy bills.

Weather stripping offers a relatively quick fix for drafty doors. To determine if a door leading out of your house needs new weather stripping look for daylight. If even a sliver of daylight remains visible between the door and its frame or the floor, add weather stripping.

Next, shut the door or window on a piece of paper. If you can pull the paper out without tearing it, you're losing energy.

There are a variety of weather stripping materials available, each good for fitting different types of door and window frames. To determine the right item for the job, check the area: if any old, worn

material has been previously installed, take a sample to your local hardware store or expert, such as a contractor. If no material exists as a guide, make detailed notes about the type of gap and how the door or window is installed — someone at the hardware store or your expert should be able to make a recommendation for you.

Once you have the proper materials for the job, consult any instructions that may be on the weather stripping package. Installation techniques range

Weather Stripping Basics

While you should always consult specific instructions on weather stripping packages, here are some basic facts to keep in mind.

- 1** Weather stripping should be applied to clean, dry surfaces in temperatures above 20° F.
- 2** Measure the area to be weather stripped twice before you cut anything.
- 3** Apply weather stripping snugly against both surfaces. The material should compress when the window or door is shut.

Source: National Rural Electric Cooperative Association



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from simple to technical, depending on the type of material being used. If replacing old, worn weather stripping, be sure to note how it was installed as you remove it. Here are a few basic guidelines:

- Weather stripping should be applied to clean, dry surfaces in temperatures above 20 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Measure the area to be weather stripped twice before you cut anything.
- Apply weather stripping snugly against both surfaces. The material should compress when the window or door is shut.

When weather stripping doors:

- Choose the appropriate door sweeps and thresholds.
- Weather strip the entire door jamb.
- Apply one continuous strip along each side.
- Make sure the weather stripping meets tightly at the corners.
- Use a thickness that causes the weather stripping to tightly press between the door and the door jamb, without making it difficult to shut.

When weather stripping windows:

- Apply weather stripping between the sash and frame.
- The weather stripping shouldn't interfere with the operation of the window.

Courtesy of NRECA

2009 Service Awards

Central Electric Cooperative is pleased to recognize the following employees for their dedicated years of service. With 20 years of service: Bill Betros, Patti Betros and Fred Terwilliger; 15 years of service: Mark Black, Dan Conner, Scott Greenawalt and Ken Maleski; 10 years of service: Chris Panian and Regis Wolbert; five years of service: Cindy Cullen, Bill Fesenmyer and Joshua Price.

Retirement awards were given to Ken Clark, 37 years of service; Russel (Vinnie) Maurhoff, 36 years of service; and Francis Heckethorn, 36 years of service. Thanks for all your hard work!



From left to right: Regis (Chip) Wolbert, Bill Betros, Mark Black, Patti Betros, Dan Conner, Cindy Cullen, Francis (Heck) Heckethorn, Bill Fesenmyer and Ken Clark

Conservation Tips

Do seal air leaks. This is the first and most important step to home comfort.

Do wash your clothes in cold water. It will not only prevent shrinking and fading, but will reduce your energy bill.

Do not keep your thermostat at the same temperature all day. It uses far less energy to lower the thermostat and then raise it compared to keeping it set at the same temperature.

Do not block or restrict air flow by placing furniture over heating and cooling registers. This causes your heating and air conditioning systems to work harder.



We Do the Work and You Save!

Members who have a load management switch installed on their electric water heaters save money for all cooperative owners. The switch prevents the cooperative from purchasing power when it's very expensive. And participating members receive a \$2.50 bill credit every month.



Power costs are predicted to rise significantly in a few years. Load management will help manage the increases. Call 800-521-0570 today and ask about the load management switch. We do the work and you save!

Tax Credits for Energy Efficiency Improvements

Federal tax credits are available for home energy efficiency improvements, including windows, doors, water heaters and HVAC equipment for existing homes. For details, visit www.energystar.gov/taxcredits.

CFL Drop Off

Are you looking for a place to properly dispose your CFL bulbs? Central Electric has a drop-off box in the front lobby of our main office building. So stop on by!



GenerLink™ Safely Run Your Generator

Emergency generators help make life a little easier during power outages. Operating well pumps, running refrigerators, and furnaces and having lights are comforts we all want. Central Electric Cooperative offers the GenerLink, a meter-socket transfer switch that provides a quick, safe and easy way for power to flow from a generator to your breaker panel. It also prevents dangerous back-flow of electricity to our power lines while linemen are making repairs.

To learn more about the GenerLink, visit our Web site at www.central.coop or call 800-521-0570.



Ken's
ilowatt
orner



www.central.coop
Check it out!
By Ken Maleski
CEC Consumer
Marketing Representative



Let's Talk Heating Options

Heating usually consumes about 40 percent or more of a home's total energy bill. The accompanying chart shows how much it costs to provide one million Btu of heat at current local fuel prices. An average-size house that is somewhat insulated consumes about 70 million Btu over a winter season.

Heating Comparison Chart

<u>System</u>	<u>Cost/Million Btu</u>
Heat Pump (load control rate)	\$8/MBtu
Heat Pump (regular rate)	\$13/MBtu
Natural Gas (area-average rates)	\$12/MBtu
Electric Baseboard (regular rate)	\$27/MBtu
Electric Baseboard (load control rate)	\$17/MBtu
Propane (\$2.50/gallon)	\$30/MBtu
Heating Oil (\$2.59/gallon)	\$23/MBtu

British thermal unit (Btu) is the standard unit of measure for heat transfer.

Recipe of the Month

White Chocolate Raspberry Cheesecake

Ingredients

Crust:

- 1 cup graham cracker crumbs
- 3 tablespoons sugar
- 3 tablespoons butter or margarine

Filling:

- four 8-ounce packages cream cheese softened
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 4 eggs
- 6-ounces white chocolate chips
- 3 tablespoons raspberry preserves (red) seedless

Directions:

1. Melt butter for crust and mix with sugar. Add crumbs and press firmly into spring form pan.
2. Mix cream cheese and sugar until smooth. Add eggs and vanilla. Beat until creamy and smooth.
3. Melt chips in microwave for 2 minutes then stir into filling.
4. Melt preserves in microwave for 30 seconds. Place preserves on top and swirl into the filling with a knife.
5. Bake at 300 degrees Fahrenheit for 1 hour and 10 minutes. Refrigerate for at least 3 hours.

Recipe submitted by Mona Goodman of Cranberry

Send Recipes to:

Jessica Brison at jbrison@central.coop or mail to
Central Electric Cooperative, PO Box 329,
Parker, PA 16049

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Read Power Lines and



Last Issue's Winner:

David and Darlene Thompson of Butler

Read your issue of Central Electric Cooperative's Power Lines and win! It's simple — you can win a \$50 credit on your monthly electric bill by reading Power Lines and completing the quiz below.

Contest Rules

1. The contest is open to all Central Electric Cooperative members with active accounts as of the drawing date.
2. Only one entry per member is permitted.
3. Employees and directors of Central Electric, along with members of their immediate families, are not eligible.
4. The winning entry will appear as a credit on the member's bill and may not be redeemed for cash.

Complete, clip and enclose the quiz and personal information below and return it with your monthly payment. For a faster entry you may complete the survey online at www.central.coop.

1. True or False: All Good Neighbor Scholarship applications must be submitted by March 15, 2010.

Answer: _____

2. True or False: Weather stripping should be applied to clean, dry surfaces in temperatures above 20 degrees Fahrenheit.

Answer: _____

3. True or False: To use less energy keep your thermostat at the same temperature all day.

Answer: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone No: _____ **Account No:** _____



Central Electric Cooperative, Inc.
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