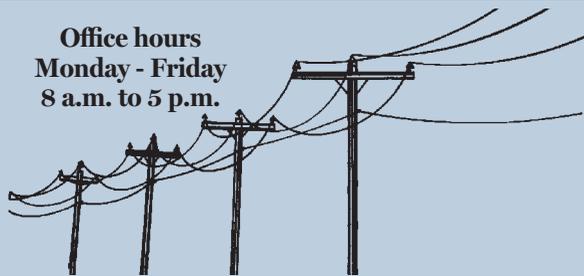


Office hours
Monday - Friday
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Tricounty Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

P.O. Box 100 Malinta, OH 43535

Office Calls: 419-256-7900

www.tricountyelectriccoop.coop



TRUSTEES

Johney Ritz President
Lawrence Weirich Vice President
Kenneth Brubaker Secretary/Treasurer
David Aguirre Dustin Sonnenberg
John Schuchert Marvin Green

EMPLOYEES

Brett Perkins, Manager	Craig Wilson
Doug Hall	Jason Warnimont
Sue Bockelman	Jeremy Warnimont
Chris Okuley	Tom Jones
Sandy Corey	Deb Stuller
Brian Bick	Weston Schwab

To report a power outage: 888-256-9858

Your call will be answered by the Cooperative Response Center. Give them the name on your account, service address, and a telephone number where you can be reached.

They will dispatch a line crew to restore service.

Be sure to check your fuse or breaker system before reporting a power outage.

Jackpot news!

Julian H. Bostelman, Jr. of rural Swanton reported spotting his hidden account number in the October issue of *Country Living*. He won half the jackpot and received a check for \$35.

Jennifer Werner of rural Napoleon would have won the same amount if she had reported finding her account number.

Your account number is on your bill statement. Disregard the zeros at the left in the number, but consider any zeros to the right when converting your number to words.

The hidden account numbers are always in Tricounty's local pages of the magazine. The jackpot now stands at \$60. So read *Country Living*, find your hidden account number, report it, and win!

The Lineman's *Christmas Eve*

'Twas the night
before Christmas
And all through the house
Not a creature was stirring
'Cause the power was out.

How can this happen?
What trouble could be?
The house is all dark
Even the lights on the tree.

The lineman's asleep
All cozy and warm.
His power apparently
Was spared by the storm.

Deep into slumber
But soon to awake
'Cause a tree on the line
Has caused it to break.

The calls swamp the office.
"MY POWER IS OUT!"
Get them here quickly,
'Cause I carry clout."

The dispatcher calls
And with a hint of despair,
He informs the lineman
The lines need repair.

In three or four hours
The trouble is found.
You see the road didn't pass
Where the tree went down.

After walking through snow
And fighting the storm,
The line is now clear
And the power is on.

And now it's morning
The kids shout with glee
And their eyes shine as bright
As the lights on the tree.

The lineman goes home now
As tired as can be.
The storm just ignored
It was his Christmas Eve.

He's not asking for praise
Or for you to applaud,
'Cause according to him
It's just part of the job.

But please just remember
As you pick up the horn
And you call the office
He may be out in the storm.

This poem was published in the December 1979 issue of *Country Living*. It was written by Kevin Hughes, an engineering technical draftsman at Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative — New Concord, OH.

The office will be closed Dec. 23, Dec. 26,
and Jan. 2 for the holidays.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Emergency service is available
24 hours at 888-256-9858.



2017 GRADS:

**Are your parents members of
Tricounty Rural Electric Cooperative?**

**You could win a college, vocational, or
technical school scholarship up to**

\$4,350

- Available in both boys' and girls' divisions
- First-place Tricounty scholarship: \$850
- First-place Ohio's Electric Cooperatives statewide scholarship: \$3,500
- Runners-up in each competition also will receive scholarships of \$550
- Applications due Feb. 10 to Tricounty's office

See details below!

Tricounty to award \$2,800 in four scholarships

Tricounty will sponsor two \$850 scholarships and two \$550 scholarships for high school seniors this year. Winners of the \$850 scholarships may have an opportunity to participate in the statewide judging mentioned above.

To enter Tricounty's scholarship competition, a high school senior must:

1. Live within Tricounty Rural Electric Cooperative's service area and have parents who receive service from Tricounty.
2. Have a 3.50 or higher grade-point average through the first semester of his/her senior year.
3. Download an application online at Tricounty's website, www.tricountyelectriccoop.coop, or contact Tricounty's office to request one via mail.
4. Submit the completed application to Tricounty's office by Feb. 10.

Any applicant who has received a full-tuition scholarship — including room, board, and books — to the school of his/her choice is not eligible for a Tricounty scholarship.

\$414,000 returned to members in December

December 2016 marks the 39th consecutive year Tricounty has made a general retirement of capital credits to current and former members. With this year's \$414,000 refund and payments to the estates of deceased members, more than \$16.5 million has been returned to our member-consumers since the first estate payment in 1950. One Two Two Six One Zero Zero.

Members of not-for-profit electric cooperatives have a unique relationship with their utility. They are the owners of the cooperative and share in the cost of expanding and maintaining the electric distribution system through the rates they pay for electricity. Co-op members also share in the profits, or margins, that are left at the end of the year after all expenses are paid.

Because Tricounty, your cooperative, is a not-for-profit organization, these margins are allocated to each member-consumer of the co-op in the form of capital credits, based on each member's total kilowatt-hours purchased for the year, with each member having his or her own capital credits account. The margins,

or patronage capital, are retained by the cooperative for a period of time and invested in poles, wires, transformers, trucks, and the equipment necessary to provide reliable electric service to all cooperative members.

One measure of the value of membership in your cooperative and a guiding principle of a true cooperative is the allocation and refunding of the margins — or capital credits — to members. Each year, Tricounty's Board of Trustees reviews the financial condition of the cooperative to determine if a refund can be made while still maintaining the co-op as a financially sound business.

The board of trustees has approved refunding 50 percent of the unretired year 2000 allocation in the amount of \$414,000. Current members who are due a refund will receive a credit on the electric bill they receive in December. Former Tricounty members who are due a refund will be mailed a check.

Refunding capital credits is unique to the cooperative program and one of the advantages of your co-op membership.



Last call to claim capital credits

In December 2012, we mailed capital credits refund checks to current and former members for 30 percent of the year 1998 allocation. Of these, about 100 checks totaling \$8,200 still are unclaimed. Six Zero Three Six Zero Zero One. If you know the whereabouts of any of these people, please have them contact our office. These former members or their heirs must claim their checks by Feb. 28, 2017.

Nicolas L. Acosta
David J. Ahleman
Marc J. Alexander
American Tower Corp.
Gregory C. Baker
Wayne Blanton
James Boman
Brenden G. Brophy
Sue A. Bryan
Larry Busch
Lynn M. Busiecker
Scott A. Carpenter
Brenda K. Cowell
Thomas E. Cox
Joseph D. Crowe
Heath Crumley
Mary Ellen Davis
Jeffrey J. Dawley
James H. Downs
Lawrence J. Drewes, Jr.
Phyllis A. Duggan
James E. Eastmann
Andi J. Echler
Terry N. Feasel
Tim Ford II
Richard C. Fuller

James A. Gibbons
R. Wayne Gilleon
Marcia Gordos
John A. Graham
Janice M. Griner
Danny L. Gunther
Gary A. Haney
Lisa M. Hart
Jacob Harvey
Linda Hassen
Bradley Hildreth
Kelly Hollinger
Katrina Hope
James C. Houser
Howard S. Hutchinson
Michael R. Johnson
Todd Johnston
Bob M. Kelly
Lynette Kennedy
Deanna L. Kimball
Elizabeth Kimbler
Brad Kirkendall
Douglas A. Koss, Sr.
Patrick J. Lasich
Holly Lavoie
Jon A. Lee

Michael E. Mackey
Sondra J. Majerowski
John C. Mannin
John M. Martinez
Rod Mathison
Harold Mayle
Brian R. McCue
Dale McDowell
MCI Worldcom
Roman K. Meyer
Robert B. Meyers
Sandra L. Miller
Alberto A. Mireles
Robert G. Mugg
John Munger
Timothy Nadler
Michal E. Nihoul
Rolando Noriega
Nicola E. Pallitta
Richard R. Parsons
John Pauley
Raymond M. Perkins
Larry Pioch
Jack J. Pojancki
Kurt A. Reinhart
Margaret L. Rieger

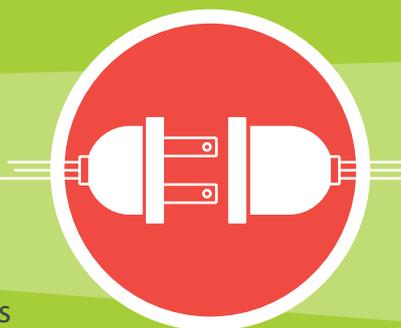
Jennifer Rogers-Hyott
Tammy L. Rood
Beth L. Russell
Jeffrey J. Rutkowski
Tomas P. Salinas
Danny E. Schetter
Shannon Scott
Susan A. Shank
Jose D. Sierra
Christopher L. Smith
Earnest E. Smith
Tina Snyder
Roger W. Spears
Mark Stevens
Douglas J. Stumm
Chris J. Sutton
Susan Thomas
Guadalupe Torres
Steven J. Weakley
Scott L. Weaver
John D. Welch
Jackie Williams
Robin M. Williams
James A. Wilmore
Ernie L. Wittes
James K. Zinn

HOLIDAY LIGHTING SAFETY TIPS



Consider purchasing LED holiday lights; they are cool to the touch and more energy efficient than incandescent bulbs.

Test holiday lights by connecting each strand before hanging them.



Make sure there are no broken bulbs or damaged or frayed cords. Discard any defective strands.

Use holiday lights that include the Underwriter's Laboratories (UL) label.



Avoid resting bulbs on tree needles and branches. Try using a clip to keep the bulbs upright.

Do not overload electrical outlets or extension cords.



Turn off all indoor and outdoor holiday lighting before leaving the house or going to bed.



AMERICA'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES