



Baker Block Museum

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ONLINE NOW

CHELCO Offers a variety of payment options to fits member's needs. Check them out at CHELCO.com.

CHELCO grants help teachers enhance curriculum

CHELCO recently presented funds to support the schools and teachers in Walton and Okaloosa counties for classroom grants, which will be used to better engage their public school students and enhance their learning experience.

CHELCO's \$6,000 contribution to each foundation will be matched dollar-for-dollar by the Consortium of Florida Education Foundations raising the contribution to \$12,000 each. In Walton County, the Walton Education Foundation administers the grant program. In Okaloosa County, it is administrated by the Okaloosa Public Schools Foundation.

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From left to right: M.H. Carr, Walton Education Foundation's Executive Director, Rumi Nielson-Green, CHELCO's Communications & Community Affairs Manager, and Russell Hughes, Walton County School District's Superintendent, hold CHELCO's education grant check.

Member Appreciation Day in Crestview

CHELCO employees enjoyed interacting with members and their families at CHELCO's third annual Member Appreciation Day at Davidson Middle School. Almost 200 members attended and were treated to

breakfast, snow cones, local business exhibits, activities for children, safety demonstrations and more. We will visit another area in our service territory next year.



CHELCO's GIS Supervisor Alannah Anderson (left) paints a flaming basketball on an attendee's face at Member Appreciation Day.



CHELCO's Corporate Services Supervisor Brian King teaches the importance of safety to three Member Appreciation Day attendees, Coleman Luzak (left), Coleman Harrison (center) and Shelly Harrison at the Live Line safety demonstration.



A Touchstone Energy Cooperative



Call to get your switch installed today!

Help CHELCO control wholesale power costs and collect rewards as well!

CHELCO offers members a \$50 payment, plus bill credits worth \$18 per year, for participating in our Switch to Save program.

Here is how the program works:

You can help control the cost of electricity by joining our Switch to Save program if you have an electric water heater.

We will attach a switch to your electric water heater that allows us to turn the power off for a short period during the hottest and coldest days of the year and back on when peak usage ends, typically about two or three hours. Even with the interruption, your water heater will keep water hot for hours, leaving you plenty of hot water for showers, laundry and you family's other needs.

The more members we have on this program, the better we can control energy costs for all. Switch to Save helps us control what we pay for

electricity, and we pass those savings to our membership!

And, we pay you to participate! We will give you a \$50 bill credit when the switch is installed, and you will also receive a \$3 bill credit in December, January, February, June, July and August as long as you keep the switch.

You can call (850) 307-1122 if you have questions or fill out the online sign-up form at CHELCO.com, under the Energy Programs and Savings tab, then Switch to Save.

IN BRIEF

Don't forget to sign up for Operation Round Up

Operation Round Up (ORU) allows members to round-up their monthly bill to the nearest dollar. Your monthly change is placed in a foundation, which will grant donations to worthy organizations. The average annual donation is \$6. As ORU grows, we hope to have far greater means to support more organizations and at greater levels than we have in the past.

Current members may opt-in to this effort. We will begin collecting the rounded-up change in January 2019. If you want to participate, fill out the form found on CHELCO.com or call (800) 342-0990. If you change your mind, you can opt-out at any time.

Holiday closures

CHELCO offices will be closed Thursday and Friday, Nov. 22-23, for Thanksgiving.

CHELCO offices will be closed Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 24- 25, for Christmas.

CHELCO grants help teachers enhance curriculum *from page 1*

Public school teachers can apply for the annual grants by proposing a project that will benefit and engage their students. The respective education foundations evaluate the proposals and select the recipients. In the 2017-2018 school year, CHELCO grants sponsored dozens of teachers impacting hundreds of students.



Mary Beth Jackson, Okaloosa County Superintendent of Schools, and Rumi Nielson-Green, CHELCO Manager of Communications & Community Affairs, hold a symbolic grant check.

TIP OF THE MONTH

Cooler temps are just around the corner! Is your home's heating system ready? Remember to replace furnace filters once a month or as recommended. If you heat your home with warm-air registers, baseboard heaters or radiators, remember to clean them regularly to increase efficiency.



CHELCO celebrates cooperatives in October

October is National Co-op Month, which is the perfect time to highlight the many ways electric cooperatives are unique.

Electric cooperatives are locally governed, looking out for the long-term needs of our members. Electric cooperatives belong to the communities we serve. This heightened community focus allows us to quickly adapt to evolving member expectations. Our closeness to the community ensures a better response to these needs because we are led by the people we serve.

Electric co-ops, like CHELCO, are a catalyst for good in our communities. Co-ops engage our consumer-

members to do things that might otherwise be impossible or difficult, like more than 75 years ago when electric co-ops brought power to areas where other utilities did not find it economically feasible. Today, it means investing in our community through programs like Youth Tour, Cooperative Solar, Operation Round Up, classroom grants and a variety of programs and services.

Cooperatives exist to meet a need that was previously unmet in the community, and we are ever striving to anticipate and plan for the future needs of our members. Electric cooperatives often partner with local groups to bring economic opportunity to our local community.

The co-op business model is unique. It is pragmatic, mission-oriented and puts people first. Co-ops strive to be a trusted voice in our communities. Co-ops have earned that trust because, while not perfect, we always have our members' best interest at heart and are determined to enrich the lives of those living and working in the communities we serve—now and in the future. These are some of the reasons CHELCO is proud to be a cooperative. Join us in celebrating cooperatives this month.

Follow us on Facebook @myCHELCO as we celebrate National Co-op Month!

Utility Co-ops

- More than **900 electric co-ops** provide power in nearly **every state** (47) in America
- Account for 42% of the nation's electric distribution lines and cover 75% of the nation's land mass**
- More than **18 million homes, schools, and businesses are powered by co-ops**
- With **\$140 billion** in assets, electric co-ops account for more than **one third** of the US electric utility industry
- About **1.2 million** rural Americans in **31 states** are served by the **260 telephone cooperatives**



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Make your voice count
Take the pledge to vote this election year.
Visit vote.coop to take the pledge.
Co-ops across the nation are dedicated to making our voices heard at the polls.
Collectively we can make a difference.



You can also get involved with:



Call (850) 892-2111 for more information.

CONNECTIONS CORNER

The Co-op Connections discount program is another benefit of being a CHELCO member. Dozens of local businesses, plus thousands nationally, offer discounts to co-op members. There are also discounts available on prescriptions at participating pharmacies. Don't forget to download the Co-op Connections app.

This month, we highlight and thank the following businesses.

Nook & Cranny Consignment

- (850) 865-2976
- DeFuniak Springs
- *Free drink from coffee shop with purchase*

Ron's Appliance & Antique

- (850) 689-1007
- Crestview
- *15% off total bill (excluding taxes)*

Mills Heating and Air

- www.millshvac.com
- (850) 862-4796
- Fort Walton Beach
- *10% discount on repairs or new installation, \$49 preventative maintenance.*

For more information, or, if you own a business and want to sign-up to offer CHELCO's 50,000+ member accounts a discount, email marketingservices@chelco.com or call CHELCO's marketing department at (850) 307-1122. You can find all the local and national deals by searching co-op connections at CHELCO.com or download the Co-op Connections app.

IS \$25 YOURS?

If the account number below matches yours, sign this page and mail it with your bill to CHELCO or drop it off at any office. You'll win a \$25 credit on your next bill.

Zagoria – 8597362394

Who Powers You contest

CHELCO, in partnership with Touchstone Energy Cooperative, is pleased to announce the third annual #WhoPowersYou contest honoring local heroes.

It's a chance for CHELCO members and employees to nominate someone who's making a difference in our community and an opportunity to celebrate the power of human connections. In addition to being nationally recognized, nominees can win up to \$5,000 for the cause they champion.

To nominate a local hero, members can go to whopowersyou.com and submit their nominee's name, photo and a brief description of how they make a difference in our community. Nominations open on Oct. 1 and must be submitted by midnight on Nov. 4. Only members of a Touchstone Energy Cooperative, which includes all CHELCO members, are eligible to be nominated.

Winners will be announced in December. An independent panel of judges will select winners based upon the positive impact they make on the community, creativity of the entry and the number of votes they receive.

POSITIVE ENERGY

A Full House of Energy Savings

ATTIC
Attic insulation is often one of the easiest, least expensive and most effective ways to reduce energy use. Contact us to find out how much is right for your home.

DEN/OFFICE
Plug all electronic gadgets such as phone and laptop chargers, printers, gaming consoles and BluRay players into a power strip. When not in use, turn the power strip off to eliminate all those energy vampires.

BEDROOM
In the summer, fans should rotate counter clockwise to push air down creating a cooling flow. In the winter, fans should rotate clockwise to draw cool air up and push the warm air.

BATHROOM
Take a short shower instead of a bath. Short showers use much less water, and you'll also save energy by not heating all that extra water!

LIVING ROOM
Smart thermostats learn how you and your family live and automatically adjust the temperature settings based on your lifestyle to keep you comfortable while saving you money.

KITCHEN
Make sure your burner isn't bigger than the pan, and use flat-bottomed pans to maximize surface contact. Don't preheat the oven until you're ready to use it. Minimize the number of times you open and close the refrigerator or oven door.

Want to learn about additional ways to save energy? Contact us for more energy efficiency tips!