A facility that serves hundreds of meals at once for weddings, birthdays and banquets needs to take advantage of every measure that cuts costs and improves quality. Kimberly Bauer, General Manager of the Royal Vista Golf Club in Walnut and Food and Beverage Consultant at Creative Hospitality Services, got some great ideas for keeping her guests pleased while cutting her electricity costs from a respected educational resource: the Energy Center at Southern California Edison (SCE).

“We host a half dozen weddings on a typical weekend, plus golf tournaments, awards banquets, birthday and anniversary parties,” Bauer explains. “And Royal Vista’s clubhouse is an older building designed when energy management wasn’t a major consideration. Profits in food service are thin, so costs are always important. Meanwhile, we want to keep our quality and our service excellent to stay competitive in this market. We needed a win-win, and we found it in a seminar we attended at SCE.”

Cooking with More Efficiency for Multiple Savings

“Our kitchen is about forty years old,” Bauer says, “and we’re in the process of replacing and upgrading our equipment. Our utility costs were just one factor for us to weigh in evaluating new ways to cook — we wanted to improve the quality of the food and the service, and also the efficiency of the operation. The biggest cost in commercial food service isn’t utilities or even food — it’s labor. So we needed one solution to controlling all those costs.

“A consultant pointed us to a programmable electric combination oven that would handle multiple tasks for us and be easier and safer to use than the gas stove we had. I liked the idea, but for the price, I wanted a hands-on test. The Energy Center at SCE’s Customer Technology Application Center (CTAC) in Irwindale gave a working demonstration for my Executive Chef and me in their Test Kitchen. They used this oven to cook shrimp, spinach, chicken, broccoli, even a steak, and everything was delicious. I called the president of our company that day and said, ‘I have to

Estimated Savings by Managing Energy

- **Location:** Walnut, CA
- **Industry:** Hospitality
- **SCE Programs Utilized:** Express Solutions
- **Results:** $1,000 cash incentive on new equipment; 18,400 annual kWh savings; over $2,000 in annual energy savings; $4,000+ in annual labor savings

**ESTIMATED ANNUAL SAVINGS**

18,400 kWh
Energy Management Success Story

Energy Management at Royal Vista Golf Club: Cooking Up Savings on Electricity

“that’s the great thing about classes at the Foodservice Technology Center — you don’t just look at the equipment, you can test it, taste the results, and talk with the experts.”

Kimberly Bauer, General Manager of the Royal Vista Golf Club

have this oven!’ The new oven streamlines our cooking process. I’m conserving power because it’s so efficient. It’s safer because it’s cooler and flameless. This oven is helping me raise my whole business performance by increasing the numbers of guests we can serve. Just the fact that it’s self-cleaning saves me over $4,000 a year in labor costs.”

Savings and Service Help Grow the Business

“Word of mouth is the best advertising in the wedding business,” Bauer notes, “so a successful reception where the food is delicious and the guests are pleased is the standard we have to meet every time. If our kitchen runs at top efficiency, if we minimize wasted energy and effort, then we’re delivering a great experience at a price people like. And we’re working safely, too, and minimizing our labor turnover. Add all that up, and we’re growing our business. What we’ve learned from SCE is essential, so we’re very appreciative, and we’re going back for more good ideas. That’s the great thing about classes at the Energy Center — you don’t just look at the equipment, you can test it, taste the results, and talk with the experts.”

Cash incentives on Equipment, Seminars for Savings at CTAC: Food for Thought

SCE’s Energy Center is a working test kitchen and classroom, offering seminars, demonstrations and workshops, including ServSafe Food Safety training and certification, all designed to guide SCE customers toward the most informed equipment decisions and the best possible return on their electricity dollars. The incentives offered on equipment through SCE’s Express Solutions can cover a portion of the cost for installation, and help save energy and money in the long term by improving the efficiency of your commercial or institutional food service operations. Lower electricity bills, potential savings on labor and maintenance costs, and better quality are the palatable payoff.

Earn Even More Savings with Other SCE Offerings

Southern California Edison offers a range of energy management solutions to help you better manage your electricity costs.

- Purchase qualifying energy-efficient equipment or technologies and receive incentives and rebates through SCE’s Express and Customized Solutions.
  (800) 736-4777
  www.sce.com/Express_Solutions
  www.sce.com/Customized_Solutions

- Save more with SCE’s Demand Response Programs, such as Critical Peak Pricing and Demand Bidding Program, which offer low cost ways to reduce your electrical bill for agreeing to temporarily reduce electricity usage during peak hours.
  (866) 334-7827
  www.sce.com/drp

- Take free SCE classes in lighting, HVAC, energy management and more at an Edison Energy Center.
  Irwindale: (800) 336-2822
  www.sce.com/ctac
  Tulare: (800) 772-4822
  www.sce.com/agtac

- Save time. Submit your application using SCE’s Energy Management Online Application Tool.
  www.sceonlineapp.com

For More Information

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Contact your SCE Account Representative, call (800) 990-7788

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