



# Egyptian Electric

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

February 2013

P.O. Box 38  
Steeleville, IL 62288

10169 Old Highway 13  
Murphysboro, IL 62966

(800) 606-1505  
(888) 554-8181 fax  
[www.eeca.coop](http://www.eeca.coop)

Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Monday - Friday

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## Mission Statement:

Improving the quality of life  
of our member-owners.

**James B. Riddle**  
Executive Vice President/  
General Manager

## Board of Directors

Kevin Liefer, President  
Randall Campbell, Vice President  
Ken Jarrett, Secretary-Treasurer  
Larry Ebers  
Allen Haake  
Paul Hicks  
Gilbert Kroening  
Steven Prest  
Paul Pyatt

## What to do if the power goes off

1. Check your main fuses or circuit breakers to ensure none of them have tripped.
2. Look at your meter. If you can read the numbers on the LCD display, there is power to the meter; you will need to check further for a breaker that has tripped or a fuse that has blown. If there are no numbers present on the display, there is no power to the meter.
3. To report an outage, call 800-606-1505
4. Make sure you have the name as listed on the account and if possible, the account number.



## EECA Loses Leader

This past fall, Egyptian Electric Cooperative and the electric cooperative program lost a quiet, yet thoughtful and highly respected leader when Raymond (Ray) Mulholland passed away in September. Ray had served on the Egyptian Electric Board of Directors since 1982.

During his 30 years on the Board, Ray served two terms as President, as well as several terms as Secretary Treasurer and Vice-President. Ray also represented Egyptian Electric and its members on the Southern Illinois Power Cooperative (SIPC) Board of Directors from 1986 to this past March. As one of your representatives on the SIPC Board, Ray also held several Board officer positions there, including that of Board President.

While a quiet individual, Ray was very astute in matters concerning electric cooperatives. Ray understood the cooperative's need for adequate revenue to ensure the quality and dependable delivery of electricity, while balancing the need to keep member rates as low as possible. Fellow board members at the local, SIPC and state levels always looked to Ray for advice and guidance.

When I became a Board member, I was the youngest member of the Egyptian Electric Board. Ray took me under his wing and counseled me on matters concerning Egyptian Electric Cooperative, the electric distribution system and its power supplier, SIPC. Ray became a mentor to me and someone that I could look to for counsel and advice. Ray understood the cooperative mission is to serve the needs of the member-owners and Ray always made sure that was in the forefront of any decision he made. His quiet, calm manner will surely be missed in our Board room.

Ray was also known to care about the employees of the Cooperative. During the devastating derecho of May 2009, Ray and his wife Shirley volunteered several days of their time feeding Cooperative personnel and those assisting us with the recovery effort, driving from Marissa to Murphysboro to see that the employees were being taken care of.

Ray was a lifelong, passionate farmer. Ray and Shirley operated a successful farm operation near Marissa, along with their son Dwayne. His love for farming even carried over to his farming equipment as he was known to spend winters cleaning and putting a coat of wax on all of his equipment.

Ray is missed in the Egyptian Electric Board room, but we take comfort in the fact the Cooperative and each Board member are better for the years he served the membership of the Cooperative.

## New Board Member

In Ray's passing, the Board of Directors has selected Steven Prest of rural Coulterville to serve Ray's remaining term. Steven is a crop advisor for Bockhorn Ag, Inc. and has served the farming community for over 35 years.

Steven and his wife Carol have two grown children, son Adam and daughter Aubrey. We welcome Steven and his family to the Egyptian Electric Cooperative family and look forward to working with him in the future.

### Kevin Liefer

President  
Board of Directors



**Integrity : We are credible, trustworthy, honest and believable.**

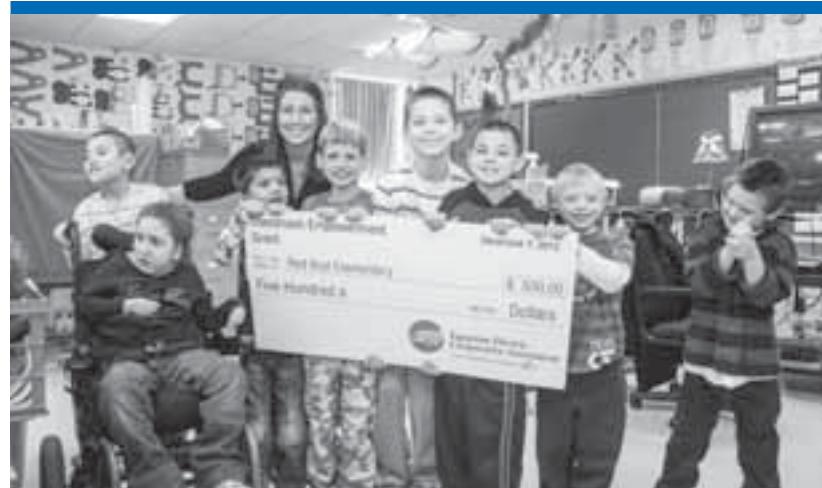
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## Egyptian Empowers Classrooms

**I**ntegrity, Accountability, Commitment to Community and Technology. These are the core values Touchstone Energy cooperatives use to guide us each and every day. Schools are the center of most communities, and unfortunately, many schools are struggling to keep up with technology and resources as finances become a major challenge. As a Touchstone Energy cooperative, Egyptian Electric Cooperative recently provided assistance to some of our area schools by providing Touchstone Energy Classroom Empowerment grants.

Egyptian Electric Cooperative gave six \$500 Touchstone Energy Classroom Empowerment Grants to local schools. The grants will go towards smart boards, science and energy programs, agriculture programs and communication programs, enhancing the technology within these schools.

Recipients of Touchstone Classroom Empowerment grants were: Evansville Attendance Center,



Christine Thompson and her class accept the Touchstone Energy Classroom Empowerment Grant check for her classroom that will purchase a communications improvement program for her classroom.

Evansville; Chester Grade School, Chester; Steeleville High School, Steeleville; General John A. Logan Grade School, Murphysboro; Christ Our Savior High School, Evansville; and Red Bud Elementary, Red Bud.

Jim Riddle, Executive Vice President/General Manager of Egyptian Electric Cooperative, said

"These grants help fill a real need for individual classroom projects that would otherwise not be funded. Assisting our local schools in providing better educational opportunities for children is just one of the ways we are committed to our communities and to improving the quality of life of our member-owners."

## It's Here!

### Advantages of Outage Texting

- Quick and easy
- No waiting on hold during large outages
- Confirmation that your outage has been reported
- Can be used for multiple services by adding a key word to each account
- Additional cell phone numbers for family members or businesses can be input
- Notification that service has been restored

Register today at [www.eeca.coop](http://www.eeca.coop)  
Go to the 'Outage by Text' page  
under the MyService tab



**Accountability : We act in accordance with our core purpose and values.**

# Good, Better, Best and Ultimate Heating Choices

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Many years ago, Sears, Roebuck & Company (just Sears for the younger folks) used to rate their catalogue items as "Good," "Better" and "Best." Those same descriptive terms might still be used today to compare heating fuels and heating systems.

For example, propane might be considered as a GOOD heating choice. The real question though, is good really "good enough?" Ken Blanchard, a well known author of management books, wrote a book entitled "Raving Fans." His belief was that if customers weren't raving and bragging about the service they received, it really wasn't good enough. As an example, he uses the scenario of a waitress asking how your meal was. Even though you may have not been totally satisfied, the common response is, "it was okay." With propane approaching \$1.75 per gallon, the only really good thing that can be said about propane is that it has fast recovery (those times you've turned the thermostat down and then set it back up.) The disadvantages of propane include price volatility, and locating and refilling of the storage tank.

Natural gas might be considered as a BETTER heating choice. Newer, high efficiency natural gas furnaces have heating costs that are slightly less than electric baseboard, ceiling cable or electric forced air furnaces. The disadvantages of natural gas include its limited availability, especially in rural areas, the increased maintenance requirements of newer high efficiency units, and price volatility due to the ever-increasing worldwide demand for natural gas and susceptibility to interruptions by terrorism and natural disasters.

The BEST choice of heating systems is electricity, especially electric heat pumps. It's clean, safe and reliable. Heat pumps, for example, have a back-up system, which is activated automatically in the event of compressor failure. With technology improvements in recent years, heat pumps have become warmer, and even more efficient and more reliable. Electricity is a flameless heat, and unlike gas systems, no combustion occurs in or near your home; consequently, there is no need to vent toxic fumes. When electric space heating is combined with cooking and water heating, there is only one utility bill to pay, an advantage for today's busy families. Even though electric rates have been increasing in recent years, the increases have been predictable and within modest ranges.

Sears never had an ULTIMATE classification, but the electric heat industry does. It's known as the

"Ground Source Heat Pump," or geothermal. These units are 350 percent efficient and have annual operating costs that are less than any other option available. They offer reliability, long life and low maintenance, and have exceptionally quiet operation as there are no outside units. A bonus with these units is the fact that they can supply up to 50 percent of your water heating needs. The only disadvantage to geothermal heat pumps is the higher initial cost. If the new home has a mortgage, the additional mortgage cost to finance the geothermal heat pump is typically considerably less than the savings on the utility bill, resulting in a positive cash flow situation for the home owner.

If you would like additional information on heating systems, please phone your cooperative's energy advisor. They are here to serve you and are a wealth of knowledge that can be used to your benefit.



Follow EgyptianCoop on Twitter to keep informed of outage status & important things you should know about your electric cooperative!

**Commitment to Community: We show compassion, care and courtesy to our members and the communities we serve.**



## Energy Efficiency Rebate program

The Illinois Electric Cooperative's HomE Energy Efficiency Rebate program was so effective in 2010 and '11, that the State of Illinois Energy Office has decided to allocate additional funding to the program, albeit a lesser amount than the original program. This is one of the reason's the program is entitled "Lite".

The other reason for the addition of "Lite" to the title is it's simplicity. With this program, there is no requirement for an energy audit from

the Cooperative. Just complete the qualifying project and if funds are available, you will receive a rebate.

These are not funds from your cooperative, so we are not taking local dollars and distributing to only a few members. These are monies, federal and state, that have been earmarked for energy efficiency programs.

Rebates are for work completed after January 1, 2013.

To receive a rebate, just complete one of the qualifying projects below,

complete a rebate form available on-line or at either office, and return it to us with copies of paid invoices. We submit the forms on a monthly basis to the State who then issues a rebate check to us. As soon as we receive the funds, we will send them to you. Rebates will be available until funds are exhausted.

If you have any questions, please contact us at anytime, 800-606-1505 or info@eeca.coop.

Rebate Item	Amount	Note
Geothermal Heat Pumps	\$1,500	New construction or upgrade to existing system.
Air-Source Heat Pumps	\$1,000	SEER 16 or higher, new construction or upgrade to existing system.
Heat Pump Water Heater	\$250	
Insulation/Air-Sealing	50% of project up to \$1,000	For retrofit only
Energy Audit	Cost up to \$300	Must be by a BPI certified auditor

### Tours for high school sophomores and juniors...

### DON'T MISS OUT



#### Youth Day April 17, 2013

Students will visit with local legislators, hear from speakers and tour the Old State Capitol. It is a great way to see local government in action.

#### Youth to Washington Tour June 14-21, 2013

This year marks the 54th annual trip to the nation's capitol and promises to be as exciting as ever. In addition to meeting with Congressmen from Illinois, students are treated to tours of historic sites, given the opportunity to make lifelong friends and receive information to help determine career paths.

For more details or to start the application process, visit [www.eeca.coop/youth-washington](http://www.eeca.coop/youth-washington) or contact our offices at 800-606-1505.

**Teamwork: We work together to provide excellent service.**