

November 2012

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
Paul Pyatt

Office Closings

Veterans Day,
Monday, November 12

Thanksgiving,
Thursday, November 22
Friday, November 23

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.



At Cost Service

By mid-December, many members of Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association that received service in 1979, 1980 and 1981 will receive a check from the Cooperative that is a return of their capital credits from that period. While some may think of it as a Christmas present, it is actually proof that your Cooperative is a not-for-profit organization that provides “at cost” electric service.

Capital credits are generated when the Cooperative receives more revenue in a year than what the expenses were. This margin, as we call it (private industry would call it profit), is allocated to each member that used electricity during that year. It does not go to share- or stockholders or to employees. It is allocated back to those that created it. Upon allocation to a member’s account, we call it capital credits.

This does not mean we refund or distribute capital credits at the end of the year. As our business is a high capital intensive industry (meaning it takes a lot of money to build and operate an electric system), we use members’ capital credits to continue to build and improve our system instead of borrowing all of the funds required. This helps keep our cost of borrowing lower and reduces our expenses.

As bank loans at some point must be paid back, so should capital credits be returned to our members. How soon or how frequently capital credits should be distributed is set by a board selected by the membership. Boards must look at many things when determining if capital

credits should be returned or distributed back to the membership. Is the cooperative in a growth period where large amounts of capital will be required, is the cooperative fiscally sound, is it the prudent, or better yet, is it the cooperative thing to do?

Your board has determined that Egyptian Electric Cooperative is fiscally sound and is in a position to make a distribution of the capital credits from 1979, 1980, and 1981. While I have told you in the recent past that we budgeted a loss for this year, we will still be in sound financial condition. We will most likely have to borrow a portion of the dollars needed to fund the distribution and if you’ve looked at interest rates lately, now is a good time to borrow as interest rates are very low. And...it is the right thing to do.

I say it is the right thing to do because we’ve used the capital credits from those members from 1979, 1980 and 1981 to help build the Cooperative for the benefit of those using it today. It is only fair that these members begin getting their capital credits returned to them. And since these excess margins are being returned to those that generated them, we can honestly say we provide “at cost” service.

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Jim Riddle

Executive
Vice President/
General Manager



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

■ Continued from page 16b

Outage Reporting

If you were a member in the time period I just discussed, you may remember how you reported an outage. If you lived in the Murphysboro-Carbondale area, we asked you to call that number first. If you didn't get an answer, then you were instructed to call the Steeleville number. On the other end of the phone was a staff member that was on call. That staff member took calls, called out crews and dispatched the crews to the outage(s).

As you can imagine, if the outage was due to a storm, the staff person was probably covered up with phone calls and you most likely had a hard time getting through on a single line to let someone know you were without power.

Sometime later, we began using an answering service to take calls. This made your task of letting us know easier as the service always had several agents on duty. Even then, a major storm or outage created a backlog of calls.

About ten years ago, we began using an outage dispatching service that is a cooperative and only handles electric cooperative customers. They were able to have more agents on duty and were able to dispatch our crews.

We've also added outage and mapping software that assists our staff to effectively dispatch crews to the largest lines first in an effort to restore service to the most members as quickly as we can. But the software still relies on your call to tell us that you are out of power. If it is a large storm that has rolled across the Midwest causing widespread outages, you may still have issues trying to get through with the massive amount of calls attempting to be made. And if we don't get calls from our members, we don't know they are out of power.

In an effort to make outage reporting as easy as possible for you and to allow our members to quickly get us the information that they

are out of power, we are working with our dispatch service to offer outage texting. You will have to associate your cell phone(s) with your account(s) ahead of time, but once you've done that, notifying us will be as simple as typing 'Outage' on your cell phone and sending it to a dedicated phone number. You will receive a text back that your outage has been received and when power is restored, you will receive a text that power is back on.

While the program is not quite ready to be rolled out, I wanted you to know about it as I believe it is something that will make life easier and more convenient for you. As soon as it's ready, we'll let you know in this newsletter, so keep your eyes open for the official rollout.

In the meantime, I hope each and every one of you has a great Thanksgiving and is thankful for all that we have in this great country.

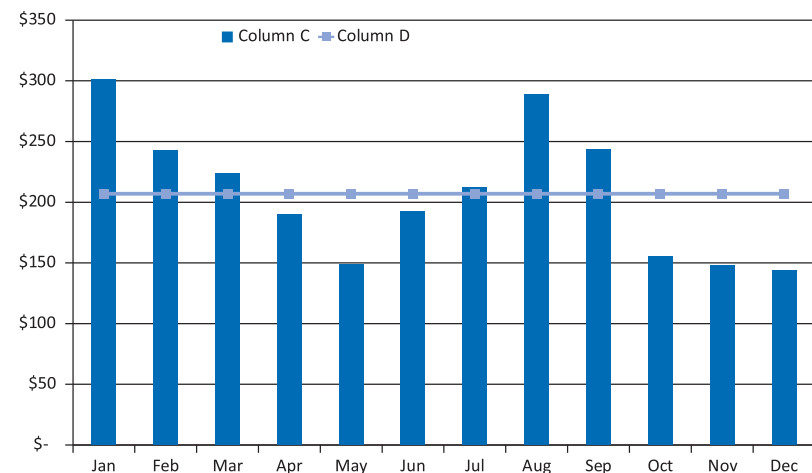
Sign up for budget billing

If the higher usage months of winter and summer put you over what you have allotted for monthly utility bills, you may want to consider budget billing.

Egyptian Electric Cooperative's Budget Billing program allows you to level out those higher bills and pay the same amount each month. That's why it's called budget billing. You can budget for the same amount each month.

To participate in the budget billing option, you must own your home and have lived there for a year or more. To provide you with a cushion, we take your annual usage and spread it over 11 months. This helps keep you from owing a large settle-up amount at the end of the budget billing cycle.

You still receive a bill showing you the exact amount of electricity you used each month and the amount



of the bill. In May we settle-up, deducting any credit or including any under-payment.

To remain in the program, you must keep your account current. Failure to do so may result in removal from the program.

Another option you may want to consider is the automatic payment

plan (ACH). Each month the amount of your bill will be sent from your bank account (checking or savings) to the Cooperative on the due date of your bill. No more late fees, checking fees or paying postage.

To sign up for either of these payment plans, please call us at 800-606-1505.

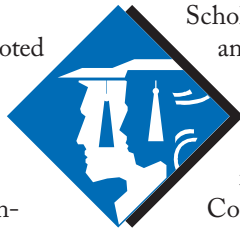
Accountability : We act in accordance with our core purpose and values.



2013 Thomas H. Moore IEC Memorial Scholarship Program

The AIEC Board of Directors in 1994 voted to establish an Illinois Electric Cooperatives (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Fund. The Fund is designed to financially assist deserving students in the “electric cooperative family,” while also providing a means for co-ops and individuals to honor deceased members of the co-op family through memorial gifts. The “driving force” behind the fund’s creation was Thomas H. Moore, Executive Vice President and General Manager of the AIEC from 1961 to 1994. The AIEC Board voted to rename the scholarship program to honor Mr. Moore following his passing in 2008.

The scholarship program prospered under the leadership of Earl W. Struck, who succeeded Mr. Moore and served as President/CEO of the AIEC from 1994 to 2006. Mr. Struck passed away in August 2007. The AIEC Board of Directors that month voted to honor Mr. Struck’s memory by naming the annual scholarship awarded to the son or daughter of an electric cooperative employee or director the “Earl W. Struck Memorial



Scholarship.” Mr. Struck was born and raised in Murphysboro and was active in the 4H program during his youth. His parents were long time members of Egyptian Electric Cooperative.

The Illinois Community College System Foundation (ICCSF) administers the Thomas H. Moore IEC Memorial Scholarship Fund. Eight scholarships a year are awarded.

Four scholarships a year are awarded to students who are the sons or daughters of an Illinois electric cooperative member. An additional scholarship (the Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship) is awarded to a student who is the son or daughter of an Illinois electric cooperative employee or director. These five scholarships can be used at any two-year or four-year accredited college or university in the United States, including vocational/technical schools. The sixth and seventh scholarships are awarded for use at an Illinois community college, and sons and daughters of Illinois electric cooperative members, employees and directors are all eligible.

The above seven scholarships are for \$1,500 each and are not renewable.

Applicants must be high school seniors and apply through their local electric cooperative. The deadline for submitting completed applications to the local electric cooperative is January 1 of each year.

The eighth annual scholarship, the “LaVern and Nola McEntire Lineworker’s Scholarship,” was awarded for the first time in 2011. This \$1,500 scholarship will help pay for costs to attend the lineworker’s school conducted by the AIEC in conjunction with Lincoln Land Community College in Springfield, Ill. LaVern McEntire served as a lineman for McDonough Power Electric Cooperative from 1949 until 1991. He and his wife, Nola, helped to endow and establish the new scholarship to financially assist deserving individuals in becoming trained line workers.

Relatives of co-op members, employees or directors are eligible for the lineworker’s scholarship, as are individuals who have served or are serving in the armed forces or National Guard.

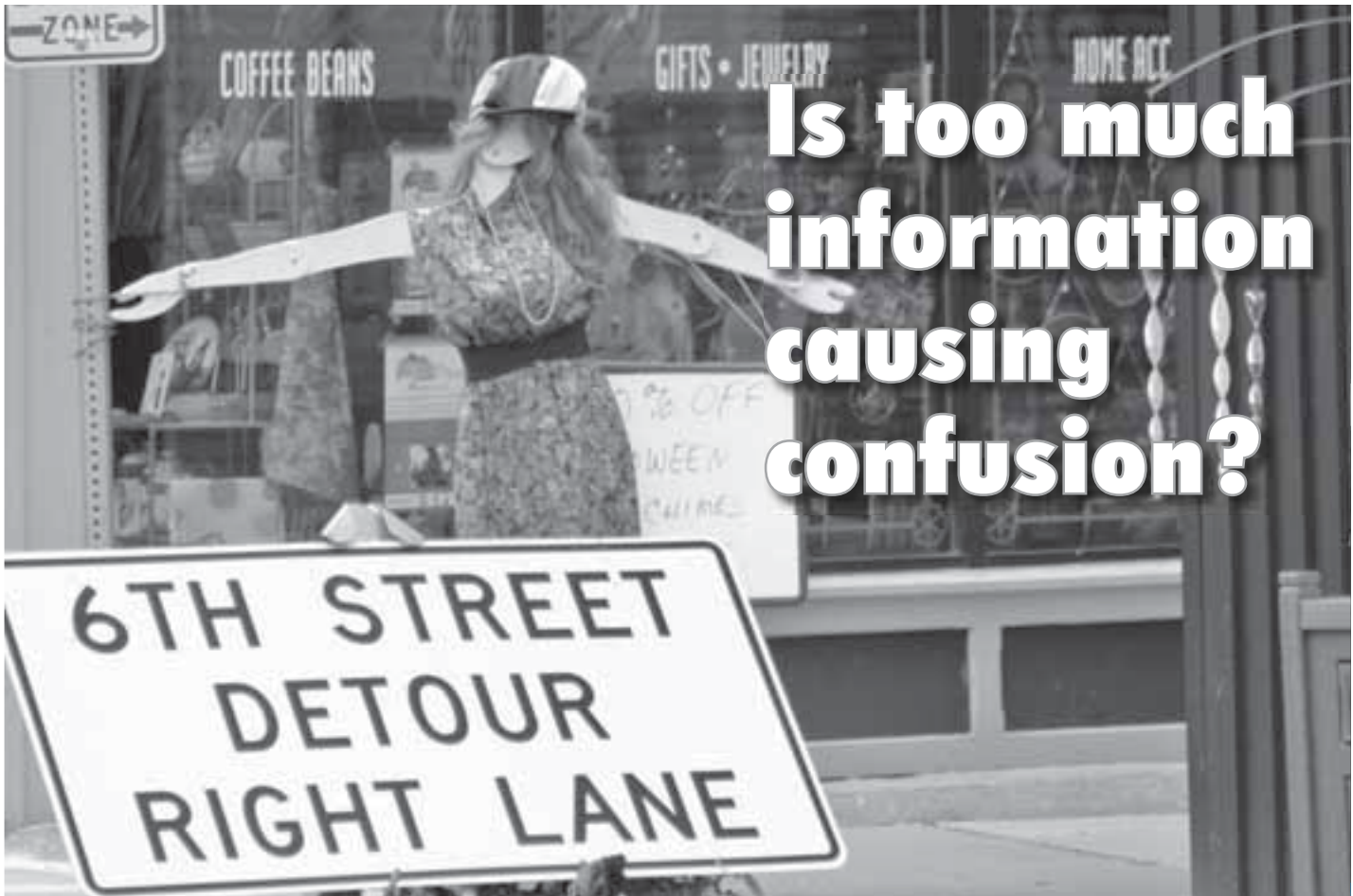
For more information about submitting an application, please visit our Web site, www.eeca.coop under the MyCommunity tab.



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.

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information
causing
confusion?**

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