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Join us for the 73rd

Annual Meeting of Members



Saturday, March 17, 2012
Crestwood School, Paris

7:30 – 9:00 a.m.

A pancake and sausage breakfast
served by EnerStar employees



7:30-9:30 a.m.

Member registration



9:30 a.m.

Business meeting begins

*All members in attendance
at end of meeting receive a
stadium blanket!!!*



Upcoming Director Elections

EnerStar directors are cooperative members elected democratically by the Cooperative membership. The official notice of the meeting and voting ballots were mailed to all members about February 15. Ballots must be received in the cooperative office by Friday, March 16 at 4:30 or can be brought to the annual meeting on Saturday, March 17.

John Fell

*Candidate for Voting District B,
Representative District 4*



John Fell, incumbent candidate for District 4, is a lifelong resident of Kansas, where he graduated from Kansas High School in 1973. He then went on and graduated from Lakeland College in 1975 with an associate degree in agriculture production and management. Fell farms the

family farm north of Kansas with the help of his son Josh and dad Wayne.

Fell has served as a director of the Enerstar Electric Cooperative Board since 1985 and has held office as Secretary-Treasurer since 1993. Fell is certified by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) as a Credentialed Cooperative Director.

Staying abreast of the ever changing world of regulations involving purchase and distribution of electricity is one of the many concerns for EnerStar Electric Cooperative. He says maintaining affordable and reliable electricity to the membership is one of his main goals.

Fell has also served on the Kansas School Board, the Clear Talk Communications Board and Harmony Cemetery Board. He is involved with the Gold Wing Road Riders Association and belongs to the Paris Chapter PI. He is a member of Kansas United Methodist Church and Treasurer of the Kansas FFA Alumni Foundation.

He has three sons: Joshua, owner of Midwestfirst.com wireless internet service; Jeffrey currently attending Joliet Junior College pursuing a culinary degree, and Kyle presently serving in the Air Force in Minot AFB, N.D.

He also enjoys hobbies of hunting, fishing, skating, riding ATVs and motorcycles, dancing and singing.

Gene Higginbotham

*Candidate for Voting District C,
Representative District 7*



Gene Higginbotham, incumbent candidate for District 7, is a lifelong resident of Martinsville, Ill., a 1958 graduate of Martinsville High School and has farmed in that area for the past 50-plus years.

Higginbotham has been an Enerstar director since 1998. He notes that there is a “learning period that goes along with any job.” He feels the experience and knowledge he has gained as a Director “are particularly important because of the complexity of the electric utility business. I also appreciate the diversity of the Board of Directors and it is critical to have different experiences in order to make sound decisions for Enerstar’s benefit.” Higginbotham further notes, “One of the areas I pay particular attention is the fiscal health, growth and improvements that Enerstar is making in their service area.”

Higginbotham has held positions on the Marshall Mutual Insurance Company, the Martinsville School Board, Auburn Township trustee, Multi-township trustee, Bluegrass Cemetery trustee, the Martinsville Economic Growth Association, the Martinsville Agricultural Fair Board, and Edgar County Seed.

Higginbotham and his wife, Judy, have four children, Tony, Randy, Laura, and Matthew, and eight grandchildren. Higginbotham’s interests include attending various community events, visiting with people and looking at or for antiques.

Mission statement

EnerStar Electric Cooperative exists to reliably distribute affordable electricity to its member-owners while upholding our values of integrity, accountability, and commitment to our community.

Tom Jones

Candidate for Voting District C, Representative District 8



Tom was born in Clark County and has lived there most of his life. Tom and Jan have been married almost 50 years. The family consists of a son, a daughter, their spouses and seven grandchildren.

He is a graduate of both the University of Indianapolis (1965),

Indiana State University (1994), and taught school in Marshall for 35 years prior to retirement. Tom is a member of Armstrong United Methodist Church and chairman of the Administrative Council. He has been Chairman of the Board of the Clark-Edgar Rural Water District since its inception in 1988. Tom and Jan have operated a grain farm east of Marshall for more than 35 years.

Tom has been a member of Lions International for 45 years. Two weeks after hurricane Katrina, Tom and Jan began volunteering for mission work trips and have participated in 12 since then. He has been through emergency response training with both the Methodist Church and the Red Cross.

Tom states that the primary responsibility of a public utility board is to provide the most reliable service in the least costly method possible. Co-operatives provide an effective means for members to enhance their quality of life and improve their community. He looks forward to the opportunity of being a part of EnerStar's progress.

Kevin Julian

Candidate for Voting District A, Representative District 2



Kevin is a 1976 graduate of Shiloh High School and has lived in his voting district for 48 years.

Kevin grew up on a farm and worked in farming in his early career. In the off-season, he worked for a mechanical contractor. He is currently employed

for Peabody Energy as a Senior Electrician and holds a Federal Electrical card issued by the U.S. Dept. of Labor. He is also a member of Peabody's Life and Safety team.

Kevin is currently a trustee in Shiloh Township and has served in this position for more than 27 years. He has been a trustee for Payne Cemetery for 30 years. He is also a founding board member with the Northern Edgar County Ambulance Service with more than 25 years of service.

Kevin and his wife, Pam, a librarian at Newman Grade School, have three daughters and two grandchildren.

In his free time, Kevin enjoys spending time with his family and friends, and considers himself a "social" coffee drinker.

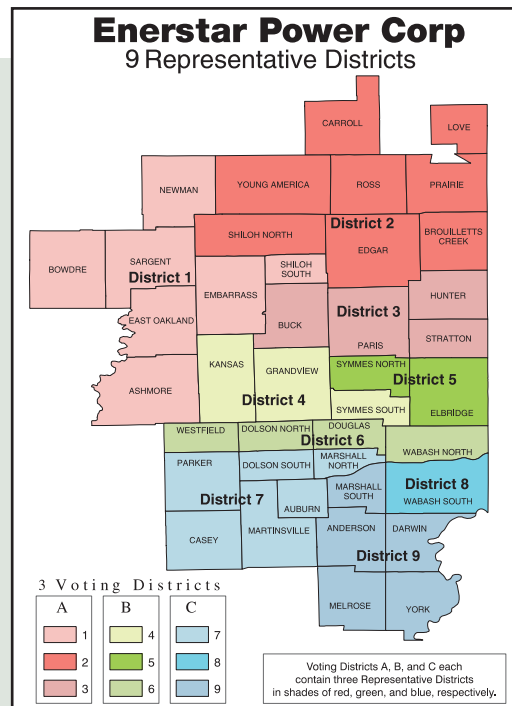
Kevin says if elected, "I would be proud to be a member of such a great team as Enerstar, and will do all I can to keep it moving forward in the future."

Members may return their ballots one of two ways.

Return envelopes with ballots enclosed can be mailed or hand-delivered to the EnerStar office and must be received by 4:30 pm on Friday, March 16, 2012. Ballots received in the office after that date will be null and void.

Or

Return envelopes with ballots may also be brought to the Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 17, 2012.



Comer, Gard attend director training

In today's environment, it is more important than ever for cooperative directors to stay abreast of the ever-changing electric industry. The Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives offers courses to do just that. The Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) curriculum consists of five courses designed to provide the basic knowledge and skills required of cooperative directors.

Scott Luecal, an NRECA consultant with more than 30 years of cooperative experience, recently conducted CCD courses on Financial Decision-Making and Board Roles and Relationships. Directors gained a better understanding of their role in financial planning and issues that drive financial decisions. They also learned how to maintain effective relationships with their members,



community leaders, media and public officials.

Mark Comer, from Paris, and Danny Gard Jr., from West Union.

Pictured from left to right are Luecal, and EnerStar Directors

Years of Service recognized

EnerStar is fortunate to have employees with many years of experience and that have a wealth of knowledge from their tenure. Likewise, our cooperative directors, who are electric co-op members democratically elected to serve the membership, also put in many hours throughout the year at meetings and training courses. At the 73rd Annual Meeting of Members to be held on March 19, two employees and one director will be recognized for their years of service.

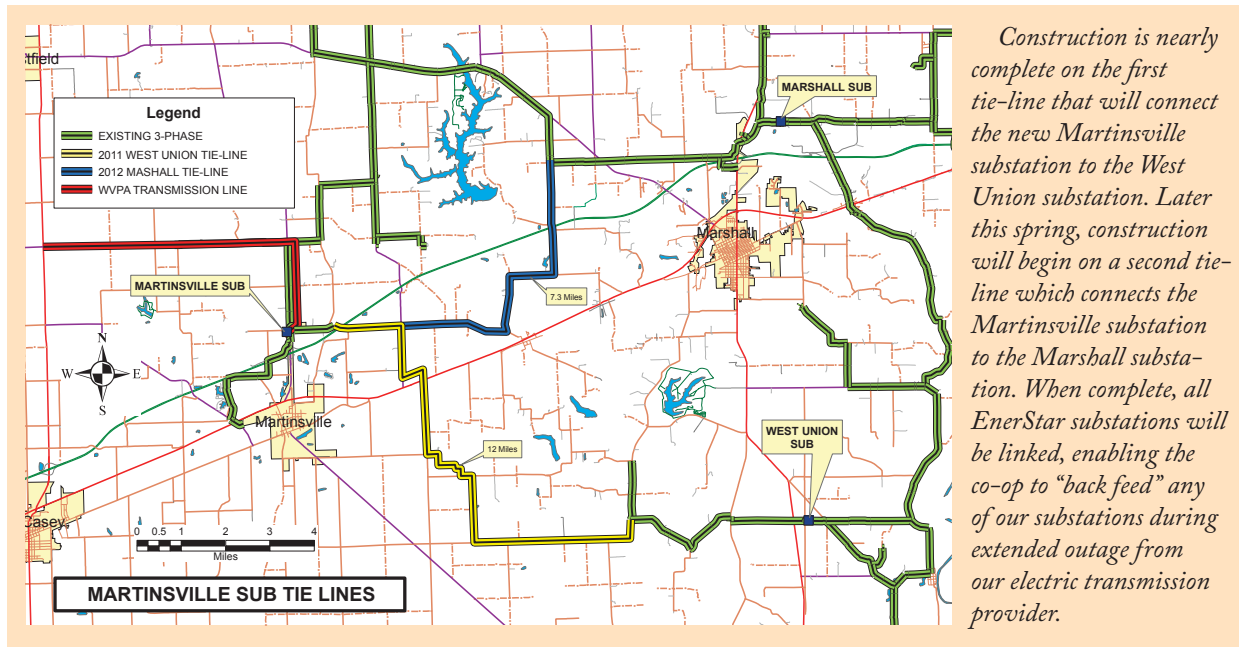
On the left is Jane Brazelton, who has been a cooperative employee for 30 years. She currently serves as accountant. Kelly McCrocklin, pictured on the right, has served as a Member Services Representative for the past 35 years and keeps the front office lively.

Jeff Zimmerman, Oakland, represents EnerStar's most western part of the service territory and has served as cooperative director for 10 years. He became a "Certified Cooperative Director" in 2003.



Commitment to improving system reliability continues

Tie Line Project Update



EnerStar has a strong commitment to electric service reliability. We have reported on major projects such as the new Martinsville substation and the refurbishing of our older substations. And we have highlighted new technologies, such as new digital smart meters, that are improving service to the membership and efficiencies at the cooperative.

Another major project that is nearly ready to go into full operation and improve service reliability in a big way is the 3-phase tie-line project in Clark County. But do not be confused because all construction is being done in Clark County. The tie-line project will benefit the entire cooperative membership for many years to come.

The tie-line project is actually two-fold. Construction began last August on the first tie-line that will connect the new Martinsville substation and the West Union substation. The line is 12 miles long, and approximately 260 new poles were set. The project included bor-

ing under Illinois Route 40 and the railroad.

"Construction has gone very smoothly. I couldn't have asked for any better," said Mike Clark, EnerStar's Manager of Operations. "And I really appreciate working with all the property owners along the way. They have been very helpful and easy to work with."

Clark said that in some places, poles and wires along the route date back to the 1940s. He explained that back then, electric lines crossed fields to go the shortest distance possible, often crossing fields and private right-of-way. These areas are very difficult to get to in a storm situation. "We were able to make some landowners happy by moving the electric lines out to the road. Should an outage occur, we can get power back on much quicker in those areas."

In the 2012 budget, the Board of Directors approved construction of the second 8 mile tie-line that will link the Martinsville substation and the Marshall substation. Engineer-

ing work and about 1 mile of line has already been built. The cooperative will have to bore under Interstate 70, near Spiketown.

Once these two lines are complete, all EnerStar's substations will be linked, giving the co-op the ability to "back feed" any of our substations during an extended outage.

"This is a win-win situation for all members," Clark added. "When we lessen the impact of transmission related outages and have the ability to bring in electricity to serve all our substations from different directions, we significantly improve reliability and lessen outage times for our members. That benefits all cooperative members."



Proudly introducing POWER MOVES

Action for a better reaction

EnerStar Electric Cooperative and Wabash Valley Power, our wholesale power provider, are pleased to introduce “POWER MOVES,” an effort that offers broad energy efficiency programs to communities and electric cooperative members. POWER MOVES offers programs for your home, farm, and commercial and industrial facilities that will result in energy savings and

will also provide the education and tools you need to improve efficiency.

Visit powermoves.com today to learn more information about the efficiency programs being offered

in 2012. The website will also allow you to access the “Home Energy Calculator” and will provide a way for you to see how changes in your home’s lighting, HVAC system or insulation level will affect your electric bill.

If you are thinking of making changes to improve efficiency for your home or business, please

contact EnerStar’s Energy Advisor Tim Had-

dix at 800-635-4145, extension 117, or e-mail him at thaddix@enerstar.com for helpful advice. And visit powermoves.com today because it takes action for a better reaction!



Wabash Valley Power Association is proud to introduce its new energy efficiency program, POWER MOVES. Visit the program’s website, powermoves.com, today to find out more about this program that will help you save on your energy bill. Wabash is the wholesale power provider for 26 electric cooperatives in Illinois, Indiana, Missouri and Ohio, including EnerStar Electric Cooperative.

2012 Rebates

FOR HOME

- Refrigerator/freezer recycling
- CFL discounts
- Heat pump water heater
- Air-source, geothermal and dual-fuel heat pumps
- Home energy assessment-coming spring!

FOR BUSINESSES

- Lighting
- HVAC
- Farming/ag operations
- Custom-let’s see if we can help!

Rebates and programs come to a close for 2011

The 2011 energy efficiency rebates and programs have ended. We are happy to announce that, with your help, Wabash Valley Power and 28 cooperative members across Indiana, Michigan, Illinois and Missouri:

- Collected and recycled 2,217 old, inefficient refrigerators and freezers
- Installed 320 energy-efficient heat pump and geothermal units
- Installed 735 ENERGY STAR®-rated energy efficient clothes washers.

Thank you for continuing to help us save kilowatt-hours!

PREPAID ADVANTAGE Coming Soon

EnerStar Electric Cooperative is set to unveil PrePaid Advantage! It's a pay-as-you-go plan that offers the opportunity to pay when you want, in the amounts you want. Would it be easier for you to make weekly or biweekly payments rather than one larger payment each month? If so, PrePaid Advantage may be for you.

PrePaid Advantage accounts never pay a late charge and avoid paying higher deposits. The deposit is only \$25 per meter when on the program. The member decides how much money should be kept in the Prepay account. The beauty of the Prepay program is that it fits YOUR budget. You can buy enough energy to last until payday, or you can buy enough to last several months. The choice is yours!

There are several convenient payment options for PrePaid accounts. You can stop by our office, pay online using EnerStar E-bill, or use our new Pay-By-Phone service at 888-999-4201! Both the E-Bill and phone service let you check your account balance and securely store your payment information for future use.

In addition, members will receive a low balance notice by e-mail. This will give you time to purchase power before the meter actually stops. If you do not purchase more power, the meter will stop and the power

will turn off. Should this happen, once a payment is made, your power will be reconnected in about 15 minutes after you push a button on the meter. It's easy to do.

Your electric service will be no different when on a PrePaid Advantage. You will have the same reliable electric service you have always had. Since you receive low balance and pending disconnect notifications prior to disconnect, you will know if you are experiencing a power outage or have just run out of funds in your PrePaid Advantage account. And, if you have a power outage, EnerStar crews will still be on standby, ready to assist you. To report power outages, call us at 800-635-4145.

EnerStar members can easily convert to a PrePaid Account. If the account is at a zero balance, the existing deposit can be applied to the account, often covering the \$25 PrePaid Advantage deposit and the initial funds required of \$75. Any remaining deposit will then be used to cover your existing electric account balance.

If your current balance due exceeds your original deposit amount, you can still switch to PrePaid Advantage. We will use your deposit to pay down your bill, and then work out a payment plan for the remainder. Rest assured, our member services representatives will



work with you to provide a smooth transition to the PrePaid Advantage program.

PrePaid Advantage works best for people who want to take control of their electric account and energy use. By monitoring your consumption on a regular basis, you will begin to notice patterns in your day-to-day use. Any variation from this pattern, such as a house guest, or a vacation, will become evident. Also, monitoring and controlling daily use can help keep your power costs down. Statistics show that prepay electricity programs help lower electric consumption due to member awareness of usage patterns. It is another benefit of the program and you might just save some of your energy dollars!

Call EnerStar today at 800-635-4145 so we can get you more information about switching to PrePaid Advantage!

Deadline nears for nominating your dad

Each year the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives sponsors a contest to recognize a deserving mother or father for his outstanding service to his family and community. Many have overcome obstacles in their lives that stand as true testaments to their fortitude and integrity. If you have such a father or know a man in the community deserving of this year's Father of the Year title, please write a letter to the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives by March 15. It's not difficult. Fill out the form on page 15 of this month's Illinois Country Living and either mail your letter or e-mail it according to the instructions. A story on the winning father will be featured as an upcoming cover feature in the ICL. The father will also receive prizes and recognition at a community event held in his honor. Be sure to enter.



Planned Outage Notification Call List

If you depend on life support equipment, contact EnerStar

EnerStar does its best to keep the power on 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year. Yet despite our best efforts, outages do occur. For most members, this is an inconvenience, but for those who depend on electricity to power life support equipment, an outage can present a real challenge. In storm-related incidents, EnerStar cannot be responsible for health-related equipment. To protect yourself, be prepared by installing a generator or having some other form of backup plan.

While most outages are weather-related, a few are planned in advance for maintenance and construction purposes. For instances of a planned outage, EnerStar maintains a Planned Outage Call List for those members with a verified medical necessity. These members receive notification in the event of a scheduled power outage.

If you or a relative depend on electrically powered life support equipment and would like to be put on the call list for medical reasons, it is necessary for the member's doctor to send a letter to EnerStar indicating the need for electrically operated life support.



The letter should include information regarding the person needing life support equipment, the type of equipment, and location information. It is the member's responsibility to keep all contact information updated with EnerStar.

It is important to stress that by being placed on the planned outage call list, EnerStar is in no way guaranteeing uninterrupted power supply. Members must make personal arrangements for both unplanned and planned outages.

If you or your business depends on uninterrupted power supply, the use of an electric generator is highly recommended and computers should have some sort of a battery back-up system.

To be placed on the Planned Outage Call List for medical reasons, contact Vicki Ewing at (800) 635-4145, extension 601.

EnerStar
**Can Help You
Dispose of Used Oil**



- EnerStar collects used oil during normal business hours, but if oil is in a container larger than 5 gallons, please call for an appointment.
- This service is available to residential members who are considered "do-it-yourselfers" for home and farm use.
- Drain the oil or transmission fluid and seal it into a suitable container.
- Important to remember...Do not mix the oil with other liquids such as antifreeze, gasoline, paint thinner, brake fluid or water.

If you have questions about the program, contact EnerStar Mike Clark at 1-800-635-4145, extension 616 or e-mail him at mclark@enerstar.com.