

# Connecting Our Members



Matt Haverfield upgrades a wireless Internet radio on one of the co-op's Internet and communication towers.

Warmer weather has made it easier for the co-op to continue its commitment to the membership in providing high-speed, reliable Internet. The co-op is focusing on upgrading equipment at tower sites with a large number of Internet subscribers, which will help improve capacity throughout the network.

Matt Haverfield is one of the co-op's tower climbers and network administrators who is helping make these upgrades possible. Matt started working at the co-op as an intern in 2012 while attending Illinois College. Matt is now working on a Master's degree in Information Technologies at the University of Illinois at Springfield.

continued...



## Illinois Electric Cooperative

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Matt Haverfield working on a radio link and server at a tower site located in Winchester.

When asked what he most enjoys about working on Internet operations, Matt replied, "I may be 200 feet in the air working on a tower, and then working on servers and computers in the office—all in the same day. There's not really a routine, and that's what I like the most." Matt says keeping tabs on the co-op's over 70 Internet sites can be quite the challenge. "It's most challenging during storms when you may have outages, but making sure all of the equipment is communicating is a lot of work especially as we upgrade equipment."

The equipment being upgraded is for our 25 meg wireless Internet. Proxim, the next generation of wireless technology, is continually being deployed, and is capable of delivering information at 25,000,000 bits of information per second. In comparison, dial-up delivered information at a maximum of 56,000 bits a second, usually around 14,000 bits a second.

Existing Internet subscribers that are electric members can upgrade at no cost for install and a one-time \$100 activation fee. If you're interested in upgrading to our Proxim wireless Internet, give us a call at 1-800-468-4732.





(L-R) Andy Nash, Joe Killday, Rob Winters, Brenda Bettis, Brad Kemper, and Dave Gant representing the co-op at the State Safety Conference.

## Illinois Electric Co-Op Recognized at Safety Conference

Illinois Electric Cooperative recently received top honors during the annual Safety/Supervisory Technical (SST) Conference held in Bloomington, IL. The co-op received the Best 3-Year Record, Best Accident/Illness Record, and Best Lost Time Record at the conference.

Sponsored annually by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC), the SST conference helps to keep attendees up-to-date on changes to safety procedures and provides presenters for information on topics of importance to their positions at their electric cooperatives.

## Like the Co-op on Facebook

Have you liked Illinois Electric Cooperative on Facebook? During times of outages, Facebook allows for us to quickly communicate with members about the status of restoring power. It also allows us to keep members updated with photos and video. To visit our page, go to [facebook.com/illinoiselectric](https://facebook.com/illinoiselectric).



\*\*\* SAVE THE DATE - ANNUAL MEETING ON JUNE 11TH \*\*\*

Illinois Electric Cooperative's  
**2016 Annual Meeting**

**Saturday, June 11th**  
*at the*  
**Winchester Grade School**

**Registration at 9:00 a.m.**  
**Meeting at 10:00 a.m.**

**Prizes and Refreshments**  
**We hope to see you there!**

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