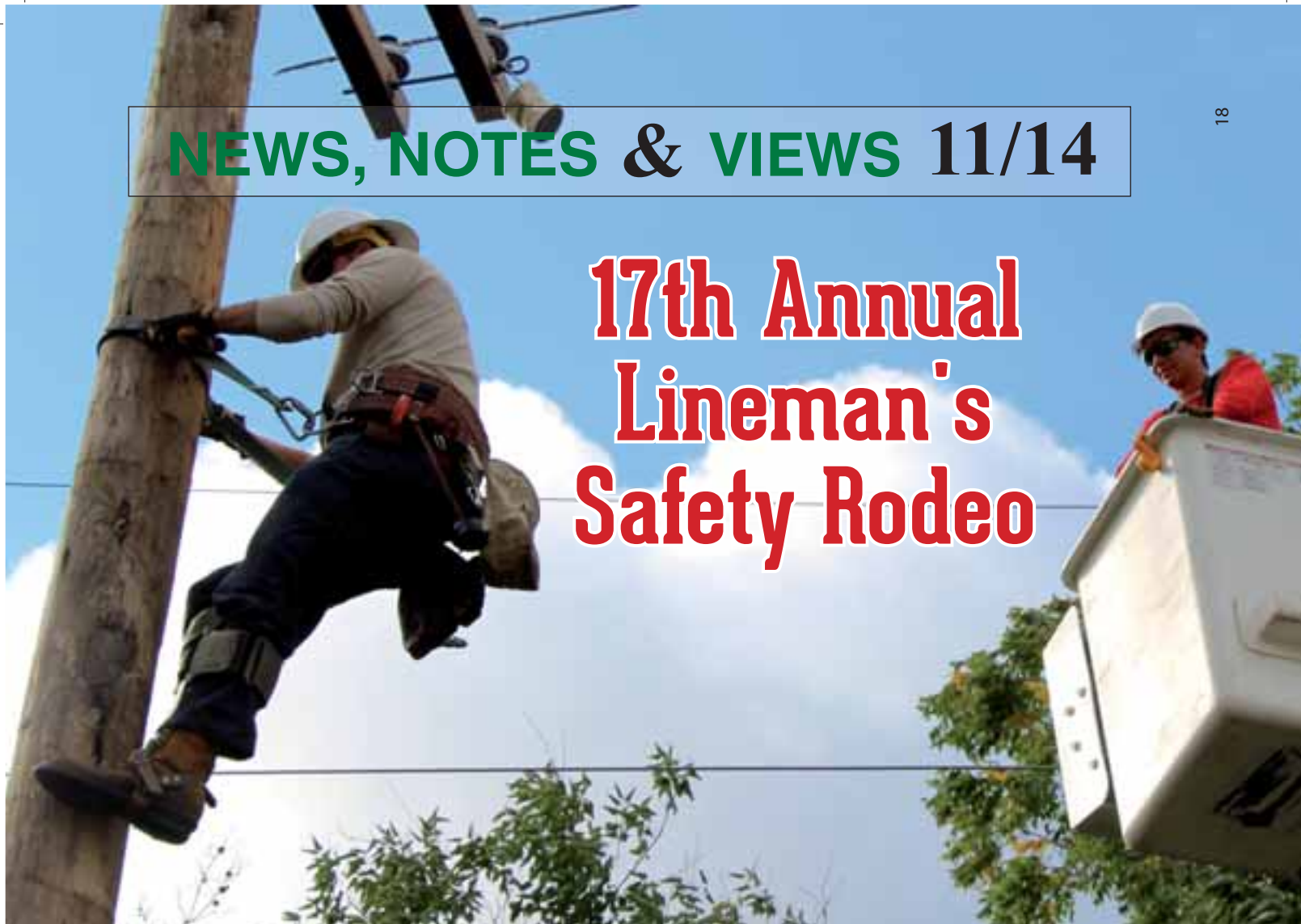


# 17th Annual Lineman's Safety Rodeo



Lineman Ryan Little competing in the Egg Climb at the Lineman's Safety Rodeo in Springfield, IL.

Illinois Rural Electric Cooperative linemen participated in the 17th annual Lineman's Safety Rodeo sponsored by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives on Friday, Oct. 3rd.

The Lineman's Safety Rodeo, held on the Hot Line Training Grounds at Lincoln Land Community College (LLCC) in Springfield, coincided with a series of courses designed to help electric line personnel improve their work skills in safe and efficient ways.



## Illinois Rural Electric Cooperative

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Illinois Rural Electric linemen Ryan Little, Cole Hurrelbrink, and Joe Alexander speaking with an event judge.

Each year at the rodeo, teams of linemen from Illinois electric cooperatives participate in competitive events using skills that focus on agility, speed and accuracy. This year 13 teams and 5 individuals participated in the competition.

Linemen Cole Hurrelbrink, Joe Alexander, and Ryan Little represented the co-op in this year's safety rodeo.

Line personnel competed in five team events and three individual events. Team events included Hurt Man Rescue, Egg Climb (linemen climb a 30-foot pole with a raw egg in their mouth), H Structure Obstacle Course, and two Mystery Events. Individuals competed in the Egg Climb, a Mystery Event, and H Structure Obstacle Course. Scores for each event use a 100-point scale and are based upon completion time and proper execution of the task including safe work practices.



Lineman Ryan Little competing in the H Structure Obstacle Course.

Deductions were made to a team or individual's overall performance score due to such things as slipping when climbing poles, dropping tools or executing inappropriate procedures or methods. For more photos, visit our Facebook page, [facebook.com/illinoisruralelectric](https://facebook.com/illinoisruralelectric).





## Ten 2015 IEC Memorial Scholarships Available

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Illinois Rural Electric Cooperative has announced that the Illinois electric cooperatives in 2015 will award nine academic scholarships to high school seniors through a memorial scholarship fund designed to financially assist deserving students in the “electric cooperative family.” In addition, a tenth scholarship – to assist with costs in attending an electric lineworker school – will also be offered.

The total of ten scholarships of \$1,500 each will be awarded in 2015 through the Thomas H. Moore Illinois Electric Cooperatives (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program.

Five scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors who are the sons or daughters of an Illinois electric cooperative member receiving service from the cooperative. A sixth scholarship, the Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship, will be awarded to a student who is the son or daughter of an Illinois electric cooperative employee. Three additional scholarships are reserved for students enrolling full-time at a two-year Illinois community college who are the sons or daughters of Illinois electric cooperative members, employees or directors.

The tenth 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 Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives in conjunction with Lincoln Land Community College, Springfield, Ill.

LaVern McEntire served as a lineman for McDonough Power Electric Cooperative from 1949 until 1991. He and his wife, Nola, endowed the new scholarship to financially assist deserving individuals in becoming trained lineworkers. Sons and daughters of co-op members; relatives of co-op employees or directors; and individuals who have served or are serving in the armed forces or National Guard are all eligible for the lineworker’s scholarship.

“We hope to assist electric cooperative youth while honoring past rural electric leaders with these scholarships,” says Robert Brown, President of the board of Illinois Rural Electric Cooperative. “Illinois Rural Electric and the other Illinois electric cooperatives are always seeking ways to make a difference in our communities. One of the best ways we can do that is by helping our youth through programs like this one. In addition, we are very pleased to offer the electric lineworker’s scholarship. It will benefit not only electric cooperative youth but also those fine men and women who have served their country through their military service and may now be wanting to become a trained lineworker.”

For more information regarding the scholarships, contact Ashley Graham, (217) 243-8705. All necessary paperwork has also been sent to area high school guidance counselors and is also available for download at the cooperative’s website at [e-co-op.com](http://e-co-op.com).

## Search Committee Formed to Fill Board Vacancy for District 5

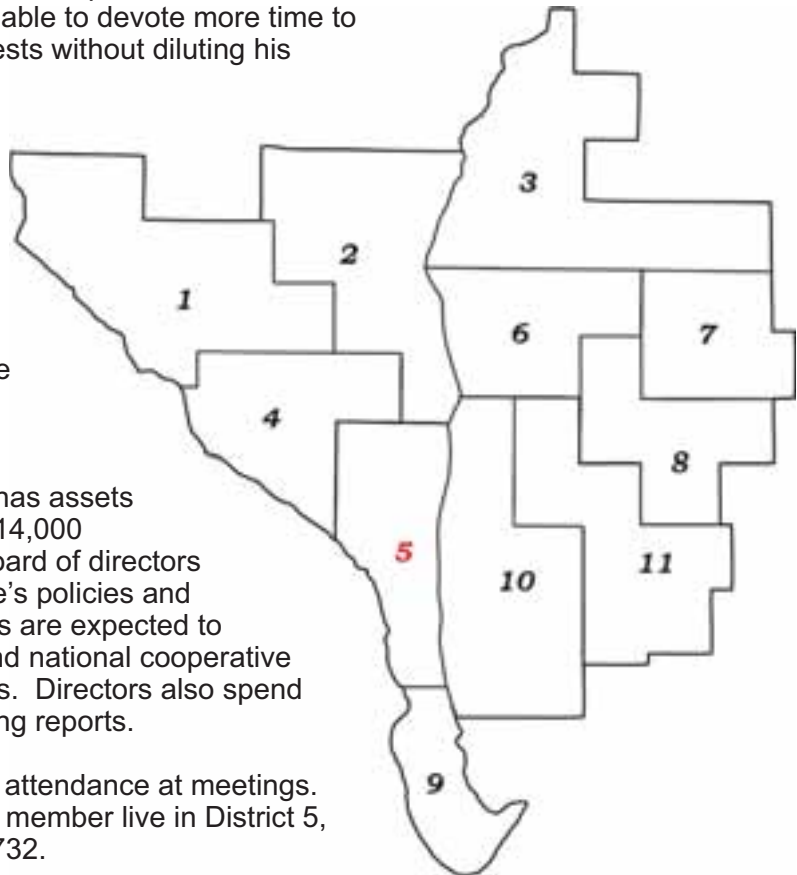
Robert Reed, who has served on the cooperative's board of directors since late in 1997, has resigned to be able to devote more time to the Twin Pike's YMCA and other interests without diluting his efforts at Illinois Rural Electric.

If you are interested in serving on the cooperative's board of directors or know someone who would do a good job on the members' behalf, please write to:

Search Committee  
Illinois Rural Electric Cooperative  
P O Box 80  
Winchester, Illinois 62694

Illinois Rural Electric Cooperative has assets of over \$90,000,000 and serves over 14,000 electric and Internet accounts. The board of directors is responsible for all of the cooperative's policies and meets at least once monthly. Directors are expected to pursue education provided by state and national cooperative associations and by cooperative banks. Directors also spend time preparing for meetings and reading reports.

Directors receive \$200 per day for attendance at meetings. If you are not sure that you or another member live in District 5, please call the office at 1 (800) 468-4732.



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