

**McDonough  
Power**  
Cooperative's

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

# The Wire

McDonough Power Cooperative • Macomb, Illinois 61455

32

## 75th Annual Meeting Highlights

M



# McDonough Power Cooperative

1210 West Jackson Street  
P.O. Box 352  
Macomb, Illinois  
61455-0352

309-833-2101

[www.mcdonoughpower.com](http://www.mcdonoughpower.com)

Office hours:  
7 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Weekdays



## DIRECTORS

Steve Lynn, Chairman

Jerry Riggins, Vice Chairman

Steve Youngquist, Secretary

Stan Prox, Treasurer

Mike Cox

Robert J. Dwyer

Steve Hall

Walter Lewis

Jeffrey Moore

John D. McMillan, Attorney

**All Co-op Electric  
Outages 837-1400**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative  
The power of human connections



# Annual Meeting Winners

**T**hank you to everyone who attended and participated in your cooperative's 75th annual meeting. Also, a big thank you to all of the businesses and vendors that donated prizes. Congratulations to all of the lucky winners!



### Walk Through Infrared Assessments -- \$100 value -- donated by GreenUp Technology

- Mitchell Welsh
- Dan Voorhis

### 30 Minute Massage from Steele A Moment of Tranquility

- Melinda Morrell

### \$25 Energy Credits -- donated by GreenUp Technology

- Wanda Whitlock
- Jerry Payne

### Free Oil Changes courtesy of Minus Muffler

- Dennis Sigwart
- Harlan Baker
- Roy Kershner

### Bring the Party bucket donated by Stacy Bainter, Tastefully Simple

- Steve Pigg

### Gift Certificate for Exam and Adjustment donated by King Chiropractic

- Elden Dallefeld

### One night at Inselhaus Bed & Breakfast includes rose petal turndown, compli- mentary champagne, chocolate covered strawberries, and breakfast in bed cour- tesy of Inselhaus

- Bruce Powell

### \$30 Gift Certificate for a Massage do- nated by All About You

- Russell Ashwood

### \$25 Gift Cards donated by Western Illinois Credit Union

- Richard Dixon
- Jay Hainline

### \$25 Chamber Gift Certificate courtesy of the Jefferson House

- Peggy Owens

### Headliners Gift Certificate

- Kenneth McLaughlin

### \$50 Energy Credits donated by Croft Electrical Contractors

- Kenneth Kessler
- Harry Green
- Jane Woerly
- Earl Sims
- Stan Dixon

### Golf Balls donated by DUECO

- Lena Pepper Estate

### BBQ Fork & Leather Gloves provided by DUECO

- Ralph Dirksen
- Leroy Tappe

### \$50 Walmart Gift Card donated by Spoon River Electric Co-op

- David Schoof

### Oscillating Fan provided by Fletcher Reinhardt

- Kathleen Combites

### Belgian Waffle Maker donated by HD Supply

- Craig Lant

### \$25 Sears Card courtesy of United Utility Supply

- Harold Miller

### \$30 Walmart Gift Card donated by Drake Scruggs

- Madolyn Briney

### Grand Prizes -- \$200 Electric Bill Credits

- Ron McGrew
- Leann Brown
- Torrance Farms



*“Annual Meeting” continued from page 16a*

Macomb, where we have been in the same building since the Fall of 1948. Prior to that, we were located on the square in downtown Macomb,” he said. “Our headquarters has always been in Macomb, but our roots are in counties we serve as they have been for 75 years. **527SG11-950A**

“Our board is still democratically elected and is comprised of members representing nine districts in our service territory. Their purpose today is the same as it was at the beginning, to represent the best interest of all members of McDonough Power.

“Today, we are a small, efficient, financially-strong electric cooperative dedicated to our membership. We value our place in the communities we serve and certainly look forward to another 75 years of service.”

While the history of McDonough Power Cooperative is important, Smith also addressed the members about the future. “This is a very dynamic time for the utility industry and our country. I am sure many of you have heard things about smart grid technology - this is a network automation, which will give you more control over your service and lower cost at the same time. It includes new technology, different rate structures, like on-peak and off-peak pricing,

*Continued on page 16d ▶*

## Co-op Receives Chairman’s Award



*Kelly Hamm of McDonough Power was recognized for her hard work and dedication for participating in the Home energy efficiency program.*

The Chairman of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC) annually recognizes cooperative directors or staff for outstanding effort in the rural electric program. This year’s winners were the local cooperative staff that promoted and administered Home, the energy assessment program that helped many of their cooperatives’ member-owners reduce their electric bills by making their homes more energy efficient. **5419A2-1256C** The \$2.5 million federal stimulus grant received

by the AIEC, allowed cooperative staff to perform 3,441 heating and cooling, insulation and weatherization home assessments in just 16 months. This effort resulted in the reduction of 397,622 therms of natural gas; 889,426 gallons of propane gas; 1,628,462 kwh of electricity; and eliminated nearly 7,000 metric tons of CO2. The economic impact of the project resulted in \$24 million of completed projects.

### Member Prizes

Every month we will have four map location numbers hidden throughout The Wire. If you find the map location number that corresponds to the one on your bill (found above the usage graph), call our office and identify your number and the page that it is on. If correct, you will win a \$10 credit on your next electric bill.



### Tip of the Month

Two degrees can make a big difference on your electric bill. Setting your thermostat 2 degrees Fahrenheit higher in summer and lower in the winter results in major energy savings. Investing in a programmable thermostat can save even more—these devices automatically lower and raise your home’s temperature. Set it and forget it! Find more ways to save at TogetherWeSave.com.

*Source: Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives*

# Celebrate National Cooperative Month with McDonough Power

## October set aside to honor 1,032 co-ops in Illinois

Join McDonough Power in celebrating cooperatives in Illinois and across America during National Cooperative Month.

Every October, cooperatives are recognized for the qualities that make the business model unique: local democratic control, commitment to supporting the communities they serve and improving quality of life, special benefits and services, and the return of margins (the co-op term for profits) back to members in the form of capital credits.

“Cooperatives are special,” says Kelly Hamm, Energy Services Manager. “We have an obligation to provide reliable, affordable, and safe electricity, but we take that a step further. We also have a

responsibility to support our members, enrich schools, and enhance our communities.”

McDonough Power is proud to be part of America’s cooperative network, which employs more than 850,000 people. Across the nation, 29,000 co-ops and credit unions generate \$74 billion in annual wages and nearly \$500 billion in revenue.

Cooperation thrives in Illinois, with more than 1,032 co-ops serving 3.2 million members, notes the University of Wisconsin’s Center for Cooperation. Illinois’s co-op economy employs 18,000 residents, and nationally more than 2.1 million jobs are supported by co-ops.

McDonough Power is one of more

than 900 electric cooperatives, public utility districts and public power districts serving 42 million people in 47 states.

“Electric cooperatives were formed because rural communities were struggling for lack of investment,” Hamm explains. “Neighbors banded together and lit up the countryside when no one else would. That’s what we celebrate each October.”

In addition to cooperative utilities, Illinois residents are served cooperatively by credit unions, food co-ops, agricultural co-ops, and more! To learn more about co-ops and find one near you, visit [go.coop](http://go.coop).

### *“Annual Meeting” continued from page 16c*

real-time pricing and load management rates,” he said. “We have already made significant investments in technology with our Automated Meter Reading System and new billing systems.

“Smart grid, fracking (process of drilling into previously unreachable natural gas deposits), and renewable energy will all play a pivotal role in the price of wholesale power for years to come,” Smith said. “However, there is little doubt the most significant factor in the future of wholesale power prices is government regulation. Roughly 60 percent of your bill is comprised of energy supply costs, and the potential is for it to rise dramatically due mainly to government regulation.” He said he agrees there should be regulation in the utility industry, but says, “What power utilities desperately need is a long-term, comprehensive energy policy that ‘thinks’ in terms of decades instead of the next election cycle.” The goal is to ensure fairness, affordability and reliability. **535BP16-266B**

“We know our members do not

want their electricity prices to fluctuate like gasoline. Just remember, a well thought out energy policy plus stable fuel prices equals stable electricity rates,” he said.

“You as members of McDonough Power, also own Prairie Power, Inc. (PPI),” Smith said. “We are part owners of Prairie State Energy Campus, one of the newest, cleanest, state-of-the-art, clean coal generation plants in the world. This plant is located in Marissa, Illinois and produces electricity at costs far below the best of the natural gas plants, even at today’s low prices.

“Our ownership in PPI will provide stable, low-cost and environmentally responsible base load energy for decades to come. PPI also added 20 MW of wind power from a wind farm located near Paxton, Illinois to its portfolio this year. These additions complement our existing gas-fired combustion turbines and market sourced energy to provide a diversified mixture of energy sources.

“The future has never looked better in its 75-year history to positively influence the long-term cost of energy. In essence,

we have been given the ability to think long-term, and we are doing so in an intelligent manner.”

The meeting concluded with recognition and awards. Service awards were given to: Walt Lewis, Mike Smith and Amy Warrington for five years of service; Debbie Fowler for 15 years and Stan Prox for 25 years.

Ken Macken, AIEC’s Manager of Safety & Loss Control presented McDonough Power Cooperative with congratulations and a plaque, on behalf of the Statewide Association, for having the safest operating record in the state over the last two years. This is the second year in a row the cooperative has received this distinction.

In addition, three incumbents for the Board of Directors were re-elected: Jerry Riggins, District 2, Steve Lynn, District 5 and Bob Dwyer, District 8.

After the meeting, the board met and reorganized. They appointed Steve Lynn as Chairman, Jerry Riggins as Vice Chairman, Steve Youngquist as Secretary, and Stan Prox as Treasurer.