

Menard Electric Cooperative's

# Connect to MEC

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



www.menard.com

## Food pantry donation

**A**t Menard Electric Cooperative you'll find something a little unusual under our Christmas tree each year—food!

About 500 pounds of food was donated by members and employees this year for our 5th annual drive to benefit the Menard County Food Pantry.

Members who donated items this year could choose a strand of LED Christmas lights or other gift options as part of our Together We Serve, Together We Save promotion.

*Thanks to everyone who donated!*



*Menard County Food Pantry volunteer LuAnn DeRocchi (left) received the delivery of goods from Menard Electric's Manager of Accounting and Information Systems Chris Hinton and General Manager Lynn Frasco.*

## Rebates available **HomE funds return for a limited time**

**T**he HomE program is back for a round three! The program began in 2010 with grant funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act program through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's State Energy Plan.

Our statewide association organized the project and electric co-ops across the state used the funds to help hundreds of members make energy efficiency improvements to their homes.

We thought HomE would be a one-time program; but its success

paved the way for a second round of funding in 2013. Now there is a third round, and we are told this will likely be the last.

HomE 3.0 rebates are available until funding runs out, or

until May 31. The program begins February 1 and funds are on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact Michelle McNeal at [mmcneal@menard.com](mailto:mmcneal@menard.com) or 800-872-1203 if you are interested.

### HomE 3.0 Rebates



- Geothermal System .....\$1,000
- Air-Source Heat Pump (16 SEER or higher, whole-house) .....\$500
- Heat Pump Water Heater .....\$250
- Insulation and Weatherization ..... 30% of total project cost, up to \$500

## Help us find these members

Our Board of Directors authorized a general retirement of capital credits earned in 1986 through a portion of 1991 last May. If you were an active member during that time you received a bill credit or a check. (Remember, capital credits are the margins we earn that are allocated back to you each year because we are non-profit and member-owned.)

Members who no longer have service with us were mailed a check. The names listed here represent those checks returned to us. If you know any of these members, or the executors of their estate, please have them contact us. They may email [info@menard.com](mailto:info@menard.com) or call 800-872-1203 and ask for Michelle. Names beginning with A--L were published last month. You can see the entire list on our website at [www.menard.com](http://www.menard.com).

Magner, David, Manito  
 Mahoney, Martha, Mechanicsburg  
 Malott, Michael, Havana  
 Marbold, Henry, Sherman  
 March, Ronald & Judith, Mechanicsburg  
 Maricle, M, Middletown  
 Marrs, John, Topeka  
 Martin, Mike, Manito  
 Maske, Steven, Havana  
 Mayer, Delores, Belleville  
 Mccarty, Thomas, Mechanicsburg  
 McConnell, Herman & Donna, Niantic  
 McCormick, Arthur & Beverly,  
 Springfield  
 McGinnis, William & Donna, Lincoln  
 McHenry Kountry Motel, Petersburg  
 McKarnen, Patrick & Sally, Illiopolis  
 McKeever Communications Inc,  
 Arlington  
 McKinlay, Mark, Beason  
 Mehr, Joseph, Raleigh  
 Merriman, Larry, Virginia

Merwin, James, Virginia  
 Meyer, Donald, Lincoln  
 Meyer, William, Green Valley  
 Mibbs, Jack, Havana  
 Michael, Reichenbach, Powers  
 Mickelson, Allan, Springfield  
 Miller, Barry, Mason City  
 Miller, Cindy, Havana  
 Miller, Dorothy, Virginia  
 Miller, Glen, Havana  
 Milslagle, Gary & Celia, Lexington  
 Minor, Lisa, Petersburg  
 Moats, Janet, Sherman  
 Montgomery, Philip, Manito  
 Moomey, Gary & Mary, Springfield  
 Moore, George, Springfield  
 Moore, Gene & Donna, Manito  
 Moore, Judith, Athens  
 Morgan, Howard & Bessie, Virden  
 Morrison, Frank & Christine, Springfield  
 Moschel, Robert, Pekin  
 Mounts, Cecil, Franklin  
 Mundy, Christopher, Jacksonville  
 Murray, Thomas & Julie, Beardstown  
 Myers, Zac, Easton  
 Nall, Kelly, Chandlerville  
 Nance, Suzette, Vincennes  
 Nash, Hubert, Ramsey  
 Nell, Patricia, Topeka  
 Nelms, Todd, Manito  
 Nesbitt, Donald & Christine, Petersburg  
 Nibbelin, Joyce, Manito  
 North Walnut St Cable TV Inc,  
 Springfield  
 Nutgrass, Otis, Jacksonville  
 O'Brien, Timothy, Petersburg  
 O'Kelley, Roger, Easton  
 Oller, Nelson & Teresa, Topeka  
 Olsen, Wm Richard, Springfield  
 Owens, Gregory & Donette, Dawson  
 Owens, Kelly, New Holland  
 Owens, Kelly, Chandlerville  
 Ozee, C K & Mary, Gibson City  
 Padgett, Ginger, Canton  
 Pallante, David, Lincoln

Parker, Scott, Manito  
 Parks, Sandra, Mt Sterling  
 Parrish, Leon, Athens  
 Patrick, Donald & Urma, Springfield  
 Payne, James & Debra, Pleasant Plains  
 Peine Inc, Manito  
 Pellhum, Curtis, Havana  
 Pennell, Jeff & Vickie, Jacksonville  
 Perrine, Ron, Manito  
 Peterman, Michael & Cynthia, Springfield  
 Pettet, Glenn & Kay, Havana  
 Pfeiffer, Floyd, Manito  
 Pharis, Mark, Springfield  
 Phelan, Cathy, Illiopolis  
 Phelps, Eugene & Bertha, Springfield  
 Pherigo, Kenneth & Sandra, Chandlerville  
 Pierceall, Patrick & Aloha, Springfield  
 Pippin, Merle, Manito  
 Plumier, Howard & Marsha, Springfield  
 Plummer, Boyd, Springfield  
 Poe, Terry & Susan, Jacksonville  
 Polistina, Ronald & Anna, Orlando  
 Pontarelli, Edward & Alice, Springfield  
 Powers, Mark & Lisa, Petersburg  
 Price, Sterling & Ginna, Forest City  
 Priett, Charles & Colleen, Virginia  
 Prince, Randy, Decatur  
 Pulliam, Bryan, Astoria  
 Pye, David, Topeka  
 Ramsey, Burkiett & Teresa, Dora  
 Rankin, Darrell & Karen, Theif River Falls  
 Rapp, Gary & Rebecca, Athens  
 Ray, James, Petersburg  
 Reid, Kelly, Springfield  
 Respet, Stanley, Sherman  
 Rhodes, Mark, Sherman  
 Rich, Darrell & Connie, Columbus  
 Riddle, Gregory, Collinsville  
 Rieneke, Eugene & Janice, Petersburg  
 Rilea, Edward, Havana  
 Riley, Dewitt, Chandlerville  
 Rimbey, Janice, Sherman  
 Robbins, D Renay, New Holland  
 Roberts, Ben, Manito  
 Rosan, Thomas, Buffalo

Ross, Lester, Laguna Hills  
 Ross, Robert & Rosemary, Easton  
 Russell, King, Petersburg  
 Rynearson, Janice, Havana  
 Sanders, Bruce & Linda, Lincoln  
 Sanders, Mike & Ronda, Springfield  
 Sandness, Robert & Barbara, Petersburg  
 Sarnes, Lori, Havana  
 Schaad, John & David, Chandlerville  
 Schmitt, Carl & Esther, Springfield  
 Schreiber, James, Lincoln  
 Schultz, Gerald, Chicago  
 Schulz, Calvin & Katherine, Griggsville  
 Schussele, Gregory, Athens  
 Schuyler, Alice, Springfield  
 Schwab, Barbara, Virginia  
 Schweers, Daniel & Linda, Manito  
 Sculley, Barbara & David, Springfield  
 Settle, Mark, Leawood  
 Severns, Don, San Jose  
 Sharp, Gerald, Sherman  
 Sheppard, Harold, Petersburg  
 Sheppard, Ronald & Sharon, Beardstown  
 Sherman, Jason, Springfield  
 Sherrock, Michael & Sharron, Waxahachie  
 Short, Nettie, Manito  
 Simmons, Michael, Manito  
 Singer, Robert & Roxane, Springfield  
 Sinkhorn, Carolyn, Athens  
 Skaggs, David, Havana  
 Skiba, Allen & Louise, Petersburg  
 Smith, Delbert & Anna, Havana  
 Smith, Harry & Deborah, Athens  
 Smith, James & Sharon, Havana  
 Smith, Robert, Bath  
 Smith, Stephanie, Greenview  
 Smith, Winifred, Buffalo  
 Snodgrass, David, Springfield  
 Snyder, Brenda & Donald, Havana  
 Soboroff, Peter, Topeka  
 Solomonson, Carl, Mason City  
 Sonderman, Aubrey, Manito  
 Southwest Feed & Grain Inc, Kendall  
   Knoles, Blandinsville  
 Spalding, John, Dawson  
 Spaulding, Robert, Greenview  
 Spears, William, Virginia  
 Stanton, William & Ruth, Edwardsville  
 Star Cablevision Group, Eureka  
 Starkey, Clarence, Mason City  
 Starkey, Mary, Petersburg  
 Stephens, Daniel & Julie, Springfield  
 Stewart, Roy & Ruby, Manito  
 Stiltz, William, Tallula  
 Stremsterfer, Norman, Springfield

Strode, James & Pamela, Sherman  
 Sundeen, Jace, Springfield  
 Swanson, Mikie, Springfield  
 Swanson, Gerald & Nancy, Alvaton  
 Swope, Maria, Topeka  
 Taylor, Diana, Sherman  
 Taylor, Ronald, Manito  
 Teichroew, Kevin & Robin, Sherman  
 Tele-Sav Communications, Cedar Rapids  
 Tenuyl, Gerrit & Pi-Ching, Canton  
 Thaller, Stephen Jr & Denise, Green Valley  
 Thomas, Garoldine, Havana  
 Thomason, Linda, Mechanicsburg  
 Thompson, Lisa, Havana  
 Timmons, Velma, Decatur  
 Tinsley, Anthony, Wood River  
 Titus, Andrew III & Marion, Springfield  
 Tomko, Joseph, Riverton  
 Trainer, Everett & Helen, Topeka  
 Trigillo, Sam & Deborah, Springfield  
 Troxell, Suellen, Springfield  
 Turner, Donna, Chandlerville  
 Turner, Lisa, Virginia  
 Tyler, Thomas, Topeka  
 US Sprint, Leesburg  
 Vadas, Roe & Susan, Sherman  
 Vadhanasindhu, P, Havana  
 Vance, Gary, Kilbourne  
 Vansandt, Rodney & Kathleen, Sherman  
 Vansickle, Al, San Jose  
 Wach, Charles & Ruby, Springfield

Walker, Charles & Deborah, Arenzville  
 Walker, Janet, Virginia  
 Wallace, David, Havana  
 Ward, Carolyn, Springfield  
 Ward, Judith, Petersburg  
 Waters, Richard & Kay, Riverton  
 Watkins, Lorene, Virginia  
 Watkins, Sandra, Petersburg  
 Watson, Terry, Topeka  
 Webb, David & Yvette, Warrensburg  
 Weedman, Mark & Jane, Edinburg  
 Welch, Timothy, Manchester  
 Weller, Russell Jr, Petersburg  
 Werries, Neil, Springfield  
 Werries, Wilma, Virginia  
 Wethington, Joe, Petersburg  
 White, Chris, Topeka  
 Whitehurst, Curtis, Pleasant Plains  
 Wilburn, Lyman Jr & Debra, Cantrall  
 Wildman Motors Inc, Petersburg  
 Wilkey, Jerry Jr, Chandlerville  
 Wiswell, Clifford, Jacksonville  
 Withers, George & Lori, Cantrall  
 Wood, Carol, Sun Lakes  
 Wood, Scott & Patricia, Illiopolis  
 Wright, Ivan & Vicki, Rochester  
 Yannone, Angelo, Springfield  
 Yates, Sharon & Alvin, Bath  
 York, Kathleen, Topeka  
 Young, Robert & Beverly, Mason City  
 Young, Frank & Marie, Bradenton

## Tip of the Month

### Entertainment centers

Have a high-definition television? Many come with a quick-start option; turn it off to save energy and add only seconds to your start-up time. To save even more consider unplugging your DVD and game console when not in use.

# Board Meeting Report

For full minutes please visit our website at [www.menard.com](http://www.menard.com) or contact our office.

Present were Manager Lynn Frasco, Attorney Charles Smith and Directors Gary Martin, Jay Frye, Warren Goetsch, Michael Patrick, Roy Seaney, and Steven Worner. Directors Jerry Brooks, Donald McMillan, and Jodine Tate were absent.

Doug Pettit, Senior Radio and Electronic Technician, and Brady Smith, System Engineer, presented a demonstration of new electric maps.

Chris Hinton, Manager of Accounting & Information Systems, reviewed the proposed 2015 Budget and 2015 Financial Budget Summary, with options to balance.

Under the Operations Report, Manager Frasco reported that October was the best

the co-op had in recent history.

Frasco advised the ICG Contract was up for renewal in July 2015. It was consensus of the Board that Frasco be involved in those negotiations.

He reported there were seven requests for new irrigation systems; half were diesel conversions and half were new systems.

Frasco reviewed a member complaint regarding a late payment charge.

He advised RUS Loan AX8 was completed. He discussed current RUS interest rates.

Frasco advised he would be involved in negotiations related to renewing the Sherman Franchise.

Frasco advised they were working on a

third draft of the Cost of Service Study.

Frasco distributed the NRECA Executive Search Confidentiality and Non-Disclosure Acknowledgment for signature by Board members.

Frasco presented the Financial Report for the month of October. Year to date margins were \$2,063,798 compared to \$2,697,802 a year earlier. Equity as of the end of October was 37.13% and the number of member accounts served was 10,766 compared to 10,716 a year ago. Net Utility Plant at the end of October was \$42,855,308 compared to \$41,155,590 last year. The cooperative continues to meet the requirements of the RUS, FFB and NRUCFC.

## 2015 Tree trimming

We strive to provide safe, reliable service for all our members. One way we do that is to control vegetation that could interfere with our 2,600 miles of distribution line. Contract crews attempt to clear each area once every five to six years.

This year they will perform cutting and mowing on circuits from the Middletown, Saidora, Petersburg and Barclay substations (shown on map in green). In addition, they will be applying herbicide to control undesirable vegetation regrowth on circuits from the Salisbury, Poplar City, Oakford and portions of Middletown and Saidora substations (shown on map in blue).

Single phase lines are cleared back 15 feet on either side of the lines while three phase lines are cleared back 25 feet on either side.

Smaller trees and brush are removed from under the lines to allow access and eliminate future problems. Small branches and brush will be chipped or mowed, while larger wood will be cut into manageable lengths for disposal

by the member or other local parties.

Because of the size of our electric system, we ask that members keep trees trimmed around triplex service wires from the home to the utility

pole. Please notify us if you wish to temporarily disconnect power while you or a contractor trims these trees. For more information call System Engineer Brady Smith.

