



## Members Attend 79th Annual Meeting

Egyptian Electric Cooperative conducted its 79th Annual Meeting of the Members on the evening of Thursday, July 20, 2017 at the Steeleville American Legion. It was again a hot day for an annual meeting, but the evening couldn't have went any better! Approximately 708 guests, including the 416 registered members, were served a hot dog dinner, chips and Dilly Bars! Bucket truck rides were again given by the linemen of Egyptian Electric, and Cassie Andrews and the Calico Creek Bluegrass Band performed in the main hall. **43-12-0013**

During the business meeting, members re-elected Steve Prest of Coulterville, Larry Ebers of Steeleville and Gil Kroening of Carbondale to new three-year terms on the board of directors. Paul Hicks, Egyptian Electric Cooperative (EECA) Board Secretary-Treasurer, reported that 2016 wholesale power costs from Southern Illinois Power Cooperative (SIPC), EECA's generation and transmission cooperative, amounted to more than \$28 million, or about 70 percent of operating expenses. Assets and liabilities totaled about \$77 million and revenue from electric sales totaled approximately \$39 million. In addition, other operating expenses totaled about \$11 million. He also stated that there were no margins to be allocated as capital credits for 2016.

EECA Board President Ken Jarrett brought members up-to-date on the

► Continued on page 18d

The existing Murphysboro and Steeleville offices, located at 10169 Old Highway 13 in Murphysboro and 1005 W. Broadway in Steeleville, will officially close for business on Thursday, October 19 at 4:00 p.m. Egyptian Electric will be closed for employee training Friday, October 20, and the new headquarters facility located at 1732 Finney Road in Murphysboro will open and begin to service to our membership for regular business on Monday, October 23 at 8:00 a.m.





1005 W. Broadway • PO Box 38  
Steeleville, IL 62288

10169 Old Highway 13  
Murphysboro, IL 62966

800-606-1505  
Office hours 8 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. M-F  
www.eeca.coop

### Board of Directors

Ken Jarrett, President  
Steve Prest, Vice-President  
Paul Hicks, Secretary-Treasurer  
Randall Campbell  
Larry Ebers  
Allen Haake  
Gilbert Kroening  
Kevin Liefer  
Paul Pyatt

**Shane Hermetz**  
Interim Manager



### Choose your payment option!

- At our office or outside drop-boxes
- Mail to: PO Box 38, Steeleville, IL 62288
- Set up recurring bank draft or credit card payments
- Use SmartHub portal, online or mobile app
- By phone, using credit card or checking account
- Kiosk located at 2301 N Reed Station Road in Carbondale

## Understanding Energy Demand and Purchasing

By Meghaan Evans

You may not think you need to understand energy demand and purchasing, but do you ever look at your electricity bill and wonder what it all means? If your answer to that question is “yes,” then you might be interested to learn how demand impacts your utility bill.

To start, it is important to understand how electricity is made and how it is delivered to your home.

Before Egyptian Electric Cooperative can send electricity to your home, that electricity needs to be generated by a Generation and Transmission cooperative (G&T), and in our case Southern Illinois Power Cooperative (SIPC), at Lake of Egypt, south of Marion. Once the electricity has been generated, it travels over high-voltage transmission lines to substations, where the voltage is reduced to a safer level. The electricity then travels over distribution power lines, Egyptian Electric lines, and finds its way into your home. So, while you pay your bill to us – your electric distribution cooperative – we don’t actually generate the electricity you use. That is the job of the G&T, or SIPC.

We do help to determine how much electricity our members need to power their homes and businesses, and you play a big part in determining how much electricity the G&T needs to create in order to keep the lights on in our community. That is where these terms “consumption” and “demand” come in. Consumption is measured in kilowatt hours (kWh). Demand is measured in kilowatts (kW). A lightbulb “consumes” a certain number of watts, let’s say 100 watts per hour. If that lightbulb

stays on for 10 hours, it “demands” a certain number of kilowatts (in this case, 1 kW) from the generation station producing electricity. Now, if you turn on 10, 100-watt lightbulbs in your home for one hour, you are still consuming the same number of kW. However, you are placing a demand on the utility to have those kW available to you over the course of one hour, instead of 10. This requires the generation and transmission plant to produce more power in less time to meet your demand.

Egyptian Electric purchases kilowatts and kilowatt-hours from the G&T based on the demand and energy charges of our members. Peak demand refers to the time of day when the demand for electricity is highest. This is typically during the evening when families return home from work or school, cook dinner and use appliances the most. Using electricity during this peak demand period often costs more to both Egyptian Electric Cooperative and our members. **56-02-1006**

Demand is the reason your electricity bills can fluctuate season to season and even year to year. Generating and distributing power can be a tricky and complicated business, but rest assured Egyptian Electric will always meet the necessary demand to provide safe, reliable and affordable electricity to your family.

*Meghaan Evans writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the nation’s 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.*

## Where does my power come from?

POWER IS GENERATED ...



... THEN SENT OVER TRANSMISSION LINES ...



... AND ROUTED THROUGH YOUR ELECTRIC CO-OP ...



... WHERE IT IS SENT VIA DISTRIBUTION LINES TO YOUR HOME.

## LABOR DAY

**Our office will be closed on Monday, September 4th in observation of Labor Day.**



## MEMBER PRIZES

Every month we will have three map location numbers hidden throughout our Egyptian Electric News section. If you find your location number, that corresponds to the one on your bill, call our office and identify yourself and the page that it is on and you will win a \$10 credit on your next electric bill.

► Continued from page 18a

status of coming changes. He also reminded members that the co-op is operated according to the co-op core values of integrity, accountability, innovation and commitment to community. "Because we are a cooperative, our focus is not on generating a profit," he explained. "We strive to provide you with the service you desire and deserve." **45-26-0007**

Retiring General Manager Jim Riddle reported on Egyptian Electric rates and how they are affected by SIPC. He explained that a cost of service study is being conducted, and that he does anticipate a rate increase this year due to materials, labor, general overhead and wholesale power costs. He additionally added that in 2016, EECA had the third overall lowest rates of Illinois electric co-ops. Regarding the new office, he told members EECA will continue to maintain two serviceman positions in the current Steeleville service area, and after-hours outage and responses will continue out of that operations center. He also reminded members of the multiple payment options they have including new payment kiosks.

Fifty-five of the 63 scholarship applicants were present for the five, with the surprise sixth, \$1,000 Annual Meeting Scholarship drawings. The winners were:



*Recipients of the six \$1,000 Annual Meeting Scholarships include (back row L to R) Dustin Engelhardt, Joseph Jeralds, Hadley Ehlers, Noah Baird, (front row L to R) Michael Smith and Ashely Stokes*

- Hadley Ehlers, 2016 graduate of Trico High School, attending Kaskaskia College
- Dustin Engelhardt, 2017 graduate of Pinckneyville High School, attending Rend Lake College
- Joseph Jeralds, 2015 graduate of Hill Top Academy, attending Greenville University
- Noah Baird, 2016 graduate of Murphysboro High School, attending Wesleyan University
- Ashley Stokes, 2017 graduate of Trico High School, attending Rend Lake College
- Michael Smith, 2015 graduate of Pinckneyville High School, attending SIU Carbondale

## Hermetz appointed as Interim Manager

At the end of July 2017, Vice-President/General Manager Jim Riddle retired from Egyptian Electric Cooperative. Shane Hermetz has been appointed as Interim Manager, previously serving as Assistant Manager. The Board of Directors continues to work towards selecting a new General Manager and hopes to fill the position in the coming months.

*Retired Vice-President/General Manager Jim Riddle with Interim Manager Shane Hermetz.*

