

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC., BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

An Equal Opportunity Employer (M/F/H)

No cheer in Christmas outages

Outages never occur at an opportune time. But to have them happen on Christmas Day is so much more of an inconvenience. Even a fireplace loses its charm when we know we have to depend on it for our total comfort and entertainment. Without a fireplace an outage is a total blah.

And such was the case for some 2,000 of our members on Christmas night.

They and we began our adventure at 8 p.m. when a lightning storm (of all things) barged through the Lexington area. About 60 members were immediately cast into darkness. Two crews were quickly dispatched to the area to begin a search for the cause of the problem. With miles of line to patrol amid the flashing lightning the linemen had some difficulty in finding the source of the interruption. Damage that is clearly obvious in the daylight can be dishearteningly unapparent in the darkness. But finally, the quick eyes of one crew spotted a lightning arrestor that had failed under a direct strike. With that discovery the arrestor was replaced and the circuit was re-energized at 2:08 a.m.

The second, almost simultaneous, occurrence came at 8:10 p.m. and affected the Hedgewood, Highlands, Royal Point, Suburban East and Eastmoor subdivisions. This was caused by a failure in an underground cable that forms an electrical loop through these neighborhoods. Six men in three trucks responded to the emergency. A fault in underground wiring is usually much more difficult to find than one in an overhead system but our three dauntless crews quickly and expertly located the disruptive cable and, through a series of circuit closings and the use of the well-engineered loop concept, were able to limit the interruption to one hour and twenty minutes. The crews did, however spend another nine hours digging out

and repairing the faulty piece of cable.

By 10:25 p.m. the engineering and line staff and the dispatchers had just settled down for a long winter's nap when the phones began to ring with another major outage. This time it was on the western side of our service territory. Four substations, Olympia, Hopedale, Tazewell and Armington, had shut down; ceasing their flow of electricity to the homes of over 1,200 members. It was immediately obvious that there was a break in a major high-voltage transmission line that serves these substations.

Once again men vaulted from their beds to find and repair the damage. It wasn't difficult to find. One of the 70-foot-tall poles was on fire! An insulator had broken due to the cold and had allowed the 69,000-volt cable to fall into the pole, setting it afire.

After a protracted bout with the fire, a temporary repair was effected to allow the electricity to flow again. By 1:30 a.m. of the 26th all service had been restored. A new pole was installed a few days later.

But our troubles weren't entirely over. At 5:55 p.m. on the 26th an overhead line serving parts of Royal Point and the Highlands parted as a result of the extreme cold. A crew worked till 8 p.m. to restore service on this circuit.

We are proud of the efficiency and professionalism shown by our personnel in restoring service in record time under very adverse conditions.

And we thank those affected members for their patience and understanding during these unpredictable interruptions of service.

We are especially appreciative of those members who, despite repeated busy signals, continue to call the office to report an outage in their neighborhood. They don't take for granted that someone else has reported it.

Three directors nominated for reelection to board

On January 3, the Nominating Committee met at 11 a.m. at the cooperative's headquarters to nominate candidates for three board positions to be filled by election at the 52nd annual meeting of the cooperative, to be held Saturday, March 10.

The Committee nominated the following members for election to the board: Rae Payne, District 1; John W.H. Tompkins, District 1; and Michael Killian,

District 1.

The following members of the Nominating Committee were present: Leo Miller, RR 1, Danvers; Duane Johnson, RR 1, LeRoy; Carl Hinthorn, RR 9, Normal; Alvin Lamar, RR 2, Bloomington; Arlis Springer, RR 2, Delavan; Robert Hopkins, RR 1, Minier; Ronald Porth, RR 1, El Paso; Dan Toohill, RR 1, Wapella; Gary Moncelle, RR 2, Lexington; and Paul Malone, Maroa.

Attention electricians, homebuilders, developers

Please be advised that Corn Belt Electric Cooperative has enhanced its policy regarding the installation of underground permanent service in the following manner:

The Cooperative will continue to install secondary permanent service at the same cost but will only do so to the side of the house located within 10 feet of the corner of the house closest to the cooperative's transformer. The side of house is construed to mean a side which is not considered the front or back of the house.

This will help eliminate problems that occur when

various structures are built over the underground cables and around metering facilities. The effective date of this change is May 1, 1990, however, we encourage you to implement this change in your construction plans as soon as possible.

Please contact the Engineering Department as soon as possible to coordinate current services and any other questions you might have.

We appreciate your help in this matter as we institute this change that will help you, the homeowner and Corn Belt Electric Cooperative provide the best reliable service possible.

Attention: Farmers, electrical contractors, grain bin distributors

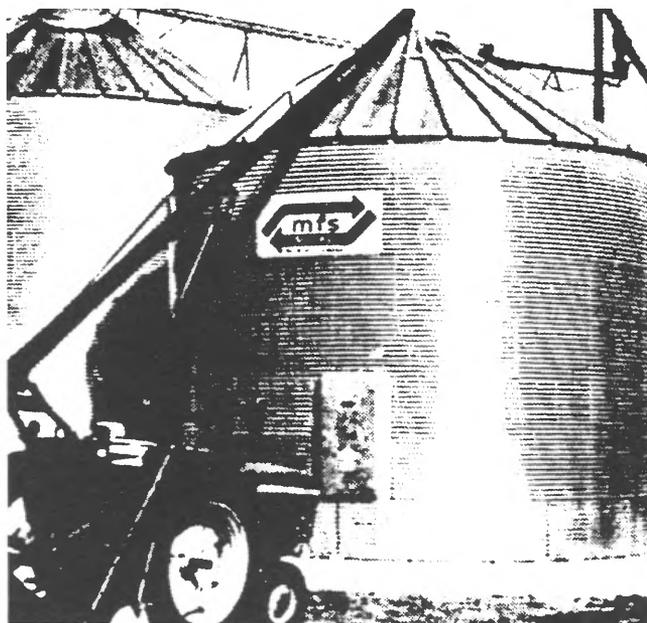
Corn Belt Electric Cooperative wants you to be aware of new changes in the National Electric Safety Code that have come about with its 1990 edition. These changes specifically address the placement of grain bins in relation to overhead power lines; whether alongside the road, up a lane, across country, etc.

Before your site location is final please contact the Engineering Department as to placement of the bin to determine the distance needed from the overhead power lines.

Failure will result in additional charges to you or the owner of the bins if the cooperative is required to alter its facilities accommodating the grain bins to comply with the National Electric Safety Code.

Please don't hesitate to contact our Engineering Department.

We want to help your installation, not hinder it!



Radiant barriers

Radiant barriers, thin plastic paper sheets with a shiny mirror-like surface, have been promoted as a boon to energy savings. A radiant barrier may conserve some energy, but the real question is, will it save you money? The answer depends on two things: how much it saves on your energy bill—usually 3 to 8 percent—and how much it costs.

Let's look at an example. In a typical one-story, 1,600 square foot tract home in Austin, Texas, 10 to 20 percent of the heat load on the air conditioner comes in through the roof. A radiant barrier might block half of that heat. The rest, 80 to 90 percent, is made up of heat that comes through the walls and windows and is generated by appliances, lights and occupants. The maximum cooling dollar savings from the radiant barrier would be \$74.

In the winter, 20 to 25 percent of the home's heat escapes through the roof. A radiant barrier stops only 5 to 10 percent of this loss. Therefore, a radiant barrier would save only about \$5 per year on heating.

The total heating and cooling dollars that the radiant barrier would save in this house in Austin, Texas, would be \$79 per year or about 5 percent of the energy costs.

from the Pedernales Electric (Texas) "News Wire"

Mark your calendar

1990		MARCH						1990
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		
				1	2	3		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31		

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SNOWMOBILERS

Be Alert for Hidden Dangers

Snowmobiling is gaining in popularity as a winter sport. The winter snow cover offers thousands of Illinoisans

the chance to use snowmobiles for fun and transportation. But winter's snow cover can conceal dangers for snowmobilers.

More than half of the serious snowmobile injuries involve collisions with automobiles, other snowmobiles, train, and fixed objects such as trees, fences, utility poles and guy wires.

Be especially alert for the dangers of guy wires or other supports for utility poles. They can be difficult to see against a background of bright snow or during dawn or dusk hours.

Watch for downed power lines, too. Your snowmobile could be wrecked if it runs across a downed line, and you could be seriously burned or even killed if the line is energized.

And, if you do see a downed power line, mark the location. Then notify local authorities or the electric supplier in the area.

Corn Belt Electric, urges you to use extreme caution as you snowmobile.

Drive defensively to keep your snowmobiling fun and safe.



Corn Belt Electric Cooperative

1502 Morrissey Drive
P.O. Box 816
Bloomington, IL 61702
(309) 662-5330



Satellite TV Programming Corn Belt Electric Cooperative

16 PACKAGES TO CHOOSE FROM \$10.00 HOOKUP FEE

HBO/Cinemax/Disney — All six feeds — \$20.95 per month

Disney East and West Feeds G1-4 & G1-24 — \$7.95 per month

HBO East and West Feeds F3-13 & G1-23 — \$7.95 per month

Cinemax East and West Feeds G1-19 & F3-23 — \$7.95 per month

HBO/Cinemax All Four Feeds — \$14.95 per month

HBO/Disney All Four Feeds — \$14.95 per month

Cinemax/Disney All Four Feeds — \$14.95 per month

S3-19 Starion Premier Cinema — \$9.95 per month

G2-2 Stardust Theatre — \$5.50 per month

Basic Package — \$10.95 per month

G1-3 WGN Superstation-Chicago G1-18 WTBS Superstation Atlanta

S3-9 WPIX Superstation New York S3-5 KTVT Superstation Dallas

G1-11 The Family Channel G1-7 CNN News

G1-8 CNN Headline News G1-9 ESPN All Sports Network

F3-17 Lifetime G3-13 The Weather Channel

G3-19 Nickelodeon-East Feed G1-21 USA Network-East Feed

G3-22 Nickelodeon-West Feed F3-10 USA Network-West Feed

Satellite Sports Network — 9 Channels for only \$7.95 per month

F1-7, F1-10, F1-11, F1-24, F4-6, F4-20, F4-22, G3-21, W5-20

G1-12 Arts and Entertainment — \$0.50 per month (only with Basic)

G1-18 WTBS Superstation Atlanta — \$1.75 per month

Prime Time 24 — \$3.95 per month

F2-4 WABC-ABC New York F2-2 WBBM-CBS Chicago

F2-12 WXIA-NBC Atlanta

Superstar Plus — \$3.00 per month

G1-15 WWOR New York/F4-7 WSBK Boston/S3-15 KTLA Los Angeles

F1-2-4-6-12-14 Netlink — \$5.95 per month

Phone (309)662-5330 or (800)322-6541 for instant hookup

FOR EQUIPMENT CONTACT THESE PARTICIPATING DEALERS

Griffin Satellites
Carlock-Ph 309-376-3471

VIASAT Communications
Normal-Ph 309-452-7916

Rite Satellites
Tremont-Ph 309-925-2321

Anderson Satellites
Norris-Ph 309-647-4259

Twin City Satellites
Shirley-Ph 309-829-8986

Mobile Audio
Bloomington-Ph 309-454-1515

Rite Satellites
Peoria-Ph 309-691-2330

Tony's Satellite Service
Bloomington-Ph 309-828-3306

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC., BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS CORN BELT ELECTRIC

Corn Belt Electric Cooperative Inc. ENERGY SAVING TIPS

How do you insulate a window? By trapping air in a "dead space" between the glass and the room inside. A good seal is of the utmost importance. Air flow (infiltration) must be stopped at the sides, top and bottom of the window.

Storm windows trap air between sheets of glass placed slightly apart, but expensive new storms aren't the only solution to heat loss. You might want to consider the following money-saving options.

Insulating Drapes—The best drapes for winter energy savings fall to the floor or windowsill and are attached (by tacks, Velcro strips, magnetic strips, etc.) to either side of the window frame. Look for heavy, tightly woven fabric, or make drapes from multiple layers of fabric.

Closed Cornice Board—To prevent cold air from circulating at draped windows, build a closed cornice. Construct front, sides and top to fit window measurements, then pad and cover with fabric.

Window Shades—According to many evaluations, even simple vinyl roll-downs can match the R-value of a storm window (approximately 2.2). By adding extra layers to your shade, you can increase the insulating value. Make a Roman shade "sandwich" with four layers: a fabric cover, a fabric lining, a layer of polyester fiberfill, and a vapor barrier of 2 mil plastic sheeting. For an extra-tight seal, make or buy sidetracks for the shade.

Window Stuffers—A styrofoam or styrene window stuffer can triple or quadruple a window's insulating capacity. A stuffer should be cut one inch longer and wider than the window dimensions. Just push it in at the edges until it fills the window area.

Cover the stuffer with fabric to prevent sun damage, and store it when not in use. If storage space is a problem, you might consider thermal shutters (usually made of rigid styrene or styrofoam). The shutters should be permanently arranged to slide or hinge into place.

Each of these window treatments calls for a bit of effort and attention on your part. Get into an "energy routine." Open drapes and/or shutters and remove stuffers to let sun in, then close up tight at night and on windy and overcast winter days.

Cooperative facts

There are 45,000 cooperatives in this country, with more than 87 million members. About half of the total electrified farms in the United States obtain power from rural electric cooperatives.

Americans purchase several billion dollars worth of food each year from farmer-owned cooperatives such as Sunkist, Land O'Lakes, Welch's, C&H Sugar, Banquet, Prairie Farms Dairy, Diamond Walnuts, Sunmaid Raisins, Tree Top, Farmland Foods, and Ocean Spray.

New members

Welcome to all new CBEC members who officially became a part of the cooperative family in November 1989!

Jimmie & Pamela L. Ackley
Jeffery J. & Martha C. Barker
Kim Becker & Valerie Farnsworth
Leslie A. Blesse
Larry C. & Mary H. Bonczkowski
Kyle & Bridget Braswell
David Bruckner
Ralph D. Jr. & Pamela S. Chapman
Billy D. Adkisson & Ellen Bourne
Scott G. & Tamra A. Barnard
Ricky S. Bennett
David T. & Cheryl L. Board
Donald J. Boswell
John D. & Sally J. Breese
Robert E. & Stephanie A. Bruning
James E. Chase
Daniel Allensworth
R.L. & Kathleen Baumann
James E. Black
Steven W. Bohlmann
Deanna M. Boyd
Kenneth A. Bright
Paul & Kathleen Center
Marilyn L. Clements
Rita L. Coit

Julia M. Cosby
Mark A. Dickman
Melvin G. Emmett
Christopher K. Flanagan
Samuel Graham
Sharon L. Haare
Hamid R. Heidarisaafa
George E. Coone
Dean M. & Ann C. Davis
Rick Diepeveen
Jeff R. Ewing
Barbara J. Garber
Adam A. Gravitt
Roger D. & Ruth Hall Hadden
Judith Henning
Jose & Maria C. Correa
Paula Degaramo
Michael Dulaney
Marilyn Felix
Reza & Sonya R. Ghasemi
Myrial L. & Irene H. Griggs
David H. & Pamela S. Hays
Matthew & Traci Herald
Robert E. Hill
Laurie A. Houghton

Ken Kafer
J. Mark Klink
Betty J. Lane
Gary J. & Linda J.C. Larsen
Armondo Miramontes
Thomas A. & Joyce L. Parmenter
Gerald L. Hodges
Orval W. & Vickie A. Houser
Kazuo Kashiwaya
Stephen M. Koepfel
Todd W. Largent
David C. Malm
Steven R. & Josephine A. Moore
Ronald C. & Cynthia Parrish
Janice Hodor
Sheryl Jenkins
R. Kevin & Sharon Kidwell
Ron Lambert
Linda K. & Timothy M. Larkin
Kevin & Mary McFerrin
Kai & Annette Nielsen
Kenneth A. Pemberton
Walter D. Pierce
Anthony Rogers
Chris H. Schneider

Malinda Spicer
Lloyd D. Stone
James D. & Lisa G. Titlow
Gary A. & Patricia A. Waggoner
Kent Whiteside
Rob Remmers
Eugene L. Ryder
David J. & Cindy L. Sinn
Pat Stalter
John T. & Julia C. Sullivan
Teresa Urban
Kevin S. & Pamela J. Ward
Bradley J. & Lolita M. Wiggins
Chris Rhodes
Tami Sanders
William S. & Pamela S. Sirola
Jeffrey B. Stickle
Michael S. & Angie Swanson
Jeannie Vaskie
Bruce A. & Theresa M. Weldy
Kathleen & Michael Williams
Edward J. Woodrey
Dana E. & Sheila S. Yeazle
Raymond E. Zacholski

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC., BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

An Equal Opportunity Employer (M/F/H)

Electricity and your health

Scare headlines overlook uncertainties of recent studies

They make eye-catching headlines: "Cancer-power line link cited in study." "Radiation alert." "Power lines and appliances—Are you at risk?"

A recent article in a national women's magazine advised readers to beware of power lines, computer terminals and electric blankets. Newspapers have reported on one health scientist's findings showing "a statistically significant link between cancer and human exposure to electromagnetic fields."

These should not be thought of as final statements on the issue, but rather as incomplete reports of ongoing research into the effects of electric and magnetic fields (EMF) on humans.

Concerns about a link between power lines and illness, especially cancer, have been raised for more than a decade. It's understandably an emotional issue because electricity is so much a part of our lives. Since electricity was introduced into homes and businesses more than 100 years ago, the small risks it can pose are far outweighed by its benefits.

The Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) in Palo Alto, California, the not-for-profit research body of the U.S. electric utility industry, is conducting the world's most extensive study on EMF exposure.

Since 1973, EPRI has been a sponsor of EMF research, putting more than \$25 million into scientific studies. The Institute is participating in 30 studies at a cost of approximately \$6 million a year. Five electric utility systems and 130,000 employees are involved. Results are expected in 1992.

The latest thoughts on EMF

First, some background: Electric and magnetic fields are invisible forces given off wherever electricity is conducted. The strength of these fields drops quickly as distance from the source increases.

EMF sources— Most of us are exposed to EMF at all times, since electricity is such a familiar part of our routine. Sources include household wiring and water pipes, kitchen appliances, TVs, computers, electric blankets, heater wires in floors and ceilings, and certain clocks, as well as electric power lines. At ordinary levels, the EMF currents from these sources are much lower than the human body's own electrical activity.

Health studies— Three main types of study are under way. Epidemiological studies examine statistical links between illnesses and possible causes. Exposure studies measure the amount of EMF exposure persons are actually getting. Laboratory studies look at the exposure of tissues, cells and whole animals to EMF fields.

And their results— So far, the main thing that various studies have in common is uncertainty. One researcher finds no statistical link while another sees some sort of connection. *However, even studies that report some health effect from EMF have shown the amount of risk to be very small.*

Causes of illness other than EMF have not been ruled out. For example, a highly populated neighborhood might have a higher density of power lines, but it would also have more traffic, noise, air pollution and exposure to hazardous chemicals. Older homes with water pipe leaks could cause water contamination.

Two studies have shown that the incidence of cancer among children living near high-current density power lines may rise from one in 10,000 to about two in 10,000 by living near a major electric line. Experimental errors, though, may mean there is no risk in this group. Other similar studies have shown no increase

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1990		MARCH					1990
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**Annual Meeting
March 10, 1990**

in cancer among children who live near power lines.

Sensational vs. scientific

New study results in this field are continually emerging. Unlike the strong ties between tobacco smoking and disease, there is incomplete evidence of a weak link between EMF exposure and cancer—frightening headlines notwithstanding.

Sensational TV reports may draw your attention, but remember that in the scientific arena, the news isn't quite so alarming.

A case in point: New York state telephone workers

The contrasting results of two studies of telephone workers in New York state show how inconclusive the research into EMF is at this stage. They point to the importance of solid scientific research over emotional, uninformed overreaction.

The first study—Two different types of studies were carried out by Professor Genevieve Matanoski and colleagues at Johns Hopkins University. The objective: to see whether telephone workers are at a higher risk of cancer due to EMF exposure.

The first study, sponsored by EPRI, looked at 1.2 million male telephone employees nationwide, active and retired. From this group, 222 fatal leukemia cases were detected during the period 1975-1980. This group was matched by age, company and year of hire with a second control group of employees. EMF exposures of workers in each group were then estimated according to jobs they held and the time spent in each job.

Findings—Work on this study continues, but initial results showed no evidence of increased risk of leukemia among telephone linemen.

The second study—Funded mainly by the National Institute of Environmental Health studies, this study was based on a smaller population than the first. It set out to identify all cases of cancer at its onset, rather

than at death as the first study did. Records of approximately 50,000 men employed by the New York telephone company from 1976-1980 were matched with the New York State Cancer Registry. The rate of cancer among linemen was then compared to that of other telephone company employees and New York males in general.

Findings—The results were unexpected, since the first study showed no connection between leukemia and EMF. Three main conclusions were:

- Some active workers appear to have an increased risk of developing leukemia.
- Incidence rates for almost all types of cancer are highest among cable splicers, who work atop utility poles and likely receive higher EMF exposures.
- Breast cancer, very rare among males, was detected among men working on central office switching equipment.

Differing results?

The second study cannot be considered a firm indication of the amount or source of risk in EMF exposure. The actual number of cancer cases is very small. Overall cancer rates of the telephone linemen were lower than those of New York state males in general.

Among the 50,000 men involved in the New York telephone workers study, 12 leukemia cases were found. When this population is divided into subgroups for analysis, the number of cases is even smaller and more susceptible to random error. Also, the actual amounts of exposure to EMF could only be guessed at.

The research continues

For its ongoing research, the Electric Power Research Institute has created an instrument to better measure EMF exposures. It is a portable meter that can be worn by a worker to record EMF exposures for weeks at a time.

It is through more accurate research that scientists will gain a clearer understanding about electric and magnetic fields and any risks they may pose.

52nd annual meeting

The cooperative's 52nd annual meeting will be held on Saturday, March 10, at Bloomington High school. Registration is from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Coffee and donuts will be served during registration.

Dinner reservations are required. Complete the reservation form and return it to the office no later than March 5. It will fit in nicely with your bill payment.

Be sure to bring the annual meeting notice with you on March 10. You'll be able to register much more

quickly with it than without it.

This year, we will have entertainment during the meeting as well as drawings for prizes. A special "early bird" drawing will be held for those members registering between 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

The continued success of the cooperative depends on your participation and we encourage you to attend the meeting.

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Please don't hesitate to contact our Engineering Department. We want to help your installation, not hinder it!



Safety quiz

True or False?

A lineman can be injured if posters for garage sales and political candidates are nailed to utility poles.

True—Tacks, nails and staples stuck in utility poles can cause climbing hooks to slip. They can also tear protective equipment and the skin and flesh of the lineman.

Cut out the reservation form and return it to the office by March 5.

52nd annual meeting

Saturday, March 10, 1990

Please make _____ dinner reservations for

_____ Member name

_____ (Map location number)

Energy shortage = energy policy?

Electric power shortages in the United States within the next decade may bring the government to formulate a national energy policy.

Frank H. Lennox, director of research for Washington D.C.-based Science Concepts Inc., predicted widespread energy shortages because utility companies are not investing in new plants.

"At the present rate of growth, the country will need 100 new large generating plants by 1998," said Lennox. "Currently, those plants are nowhere on the horizon."

Lennox said power plants now in operation can provide adequate power to the country until 1998 only at a 1 percent growth rate. However, from 1977 to 1988, nationwide electrical demand grew 4.5 percent.

During the 1970s and 1980s, many manufacturing companies shifted from their own energy source of huge coal-fired furnaces to using electrical energy provided by regional utilities.

Changes to industrial electrical processes has increased energy efficiency by 26 percent nationwide since 1973, according to Lennox. The changes also placed greater demand on power generation plants than ever before.

Because of growing demand, Lennox said, fossil fuel power generation plants recently reached a new peak, demanding the importation of one million barrels of

oil per day to meet its needs. Unless new non-oil burning plants are constructed, oil-fired capacity may increase oil imports two million barrels per day by 1995.

He said the country must look to clean coal technology and new light-water nuclear reactors to meet the need of supplying energy and keeping the country from becoming dependent on uncertain supplies of oil. Changes in regulation of the utilities industry are needed.

Utility companies have been reluctant to build new plants because regulating bodies in the past have stopped some of the plants from becoming operational after utilities have invested millions of dollars.

In the future, Lennox said, construction must be tied to operational permits. This would guarantee that utilities constructing new plants would be able to operate them, once completed.

"We must begin to recognize that we are turning a corner regarding the need for more power," said Lennox. "Some areas will experience shortages soon. Five years down the road we will need to build clean coal plants and advanced nuclear power plants."

Science Concepts Inc. works with energy trade associations, the U.S. Department of Energy and private energy concerns in developing energy projects.

New members

Welcome to all new CBEC members who officially became a part of the cooperative family in December 1989!

Jenny Adams
Steven D. & Beth Baker
Marlo Baughman
Michael H. Bielfeldt
Gilbert A. & Sandra S. Bliton
Christi L. Brown
William E. Burse
Shri & Asha Chandak
All-Brite Sign Co.
Glenn W. & P.A. Baldwin
Gene Benjamin
Tammy Billups
Emil G., Jr. & Cheryl T. Bouchez
Charles K. Brush
Harold A. Byrd
Paul J. Cross
Larry & Phyllis Atwood
Larry M. & Sandra M. Barney
Jeff J. & Mary A. Benway
Kenneth W. Birge
Christopher L. Bowen
Bob Bullock
Pamela Carter
Dennis A. Dail
Stacy D. Danison
David G. & Michel Wilson Eades
Wayne Fisher
Geryl D. Fountain
Roger W. & Janet M. Garrett
Marti & Dennis R. Giesel

David R. & Renee H. Gregg
Jennifer Haberbosch
Brian & Sarah J. Day
Donald Edwards II
Ronald E. & Betty J. Fontaine
Dan Fritchley
General Biscuit of America
William D. & Virginia A. Glover
David & Mary Grimm
Dennis Hardt
David L. & Diana K. Dunker
Douglas A. Emberton
Vivian Forman
Robert D. & Jeanette A. Fuller
Dominic P. Gentile
David L. & Nancy G. Golwitzer
William & Billie R. Gruetter
M.B. Harish
Joseph C. & Angela M. Hawkins
John H. Nagel Estate, c/o
Dorothy Schickendanz
David B. Kettell
Harold R. & Pam S. Lamar
Betty J. Lewis
Debbie M. Long
Duane K. & Candace L. Marquis
Robbin L. Mattingly
Cheryl S. Heinrich
Alan R. Jones
Louis F. & Rhonda M. Knockel

Gary A. & Phyllis A. Lambert
Gena Lohr
Troy L. & Donna Mallicoat
Tracy & Lori Marshall
Daniel D. & Kimberly A. McReynolds
Elaine Hill
Barry T. & Nicki Kantz
James D. & Vicky Jo Kruse
Mark L. & Carolyn Lembke
David D. & Kathy H. Long
Angela K. Manzella
C. David Mathis
JAY A. & Marguita Miller
Michael W. & Virginia Misch
Kevin & Jane Morrison
Thomas B. & Nancy U. Myers
Karen D. Orr
Marjorie E. Peifer
John J. & Sharon S. Pokorney
Richard A. & Margaret K. Ramage
Darryl R. Schmidt
Dana Mitchell
Mahmod Motamedy & Zohreh Kavosi
Old Farm Lake Development
Stephanie L. Orrick
Donna J. Peterson
Greg Price
Ronald E. Rebholz
M. Lavon Schoeder
Dana Mitchell

Stan Kaylor
David M. & Angela S. Onuma
Winifred Parker
Larry, Jr. & Kimberly L. Phillips
Greg L. & Tammy M. Puckett
David B. & Karen Reiningger
Becky Shames
James L. & Jael Sherer
Troy & Angel Sparrow
Tamara J. Stroud
Robert B. Townsend
Theodore J. & Marilyn Barnes Weidner
Gil & Anita Winger
Bob J. Woodrum
Anthony A. Sipes
Michael D. & Teresa Tordi Steach
Gregory J. & Carolyn Sutherland
Everett E. & L. Helen Turvey
Douglas G. & Veronica L. Whitted
Jeff & Tina D. Witzig
Bernard P. & Beth M. Wrezinski
Thomas E. & Cindy Smith
Brent E. & Sheila Stewart
Steve L. Szadai
Jeffrey A. Wagenbach
Chris D. Williams
Carol J. Woggon
William & Elnora Young

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC., BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS CORN BELT ELECTRIC

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC., BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

An Equal Opportunity Employer (M/F/H)



Cleanup was particularly difficult in the residential areas.

Ice storm — ough!

There it was: the moisture from the skies we had all hoped for. Little did we realize that the temperature would continue to hover around the freezing point on this Wednesday morning of February 14. The line department was eyeing this ominous sign, though, and praying for a temperature rise; but in vain.

By 10 a.m., troubles were being reported in the extreme southern portion of our service territory. Lines, heavy with ice, began falling; often because the poles or the crossarms broke that held them up. All day we watched the storm creep north, past the northern boundary of the Good Friday 1978 icing and still northward. The outages due to snapped, ice-laden wire continued to mount until it seemed as if all 12,000 members were calling at once. Not all members phoned but at least 4,500 of you who did.

By early Thursday morning, our entire service territory was covered with ice; up to one-half inch of the slippery, heavy stuff. Bare wire that is 3/8 inch in diameter became coated in two or more inches of ice with a beard of icicles!

The line crews, who had begun a normal working day on Wednesday morning, stayed out on the icy, rain-slickened roads, attempting the seemingly impossible

tasks of staying on their feet and, at the same time, repairing the damage. Damage that often had to be repaired twice or three times as the ice kept accumulating and downing more wire on just repaired circuits. But the men and the ladies of the line department kept doggedly at the task. Most of them worked more than 60 straight hours before being ordered back to the service building and thence to their homes for a much needed, but much too short, rest period. In the meantime, line crews from other co-ops began arriving to assist in the restoration. As they arrived, they were given their repair assignment, taken in hand by members of the engineering department and departed for the field to contribute their efforts.

Members, however, were still calling the office to report being out of power; many of them out for the second time. Office personnel, answering the phones for hour after hour, would patiently fill in the outage tickets with the member's name, map location and phone numbers, and the time of the outage. There was some concern that our supply of outage tickets would be depleted.

A note here to those members who do not know their map location numbers. That number is your address

to a lineman in his truck. With 12,000 members, it is impossible to know the whereabouts of each by name and address. If the member cannot recite this identification code, the process of serving him or her during an emergency situation is considerably altered and lengthened. Do yourselves a good deed and memorize or post near the phone the map location number that is shown in the lower left hand corner of your bill stub. You and we will be happy you did.

Our experience has been that as the rain ceases, the temperature rises after an ice storm, melts the ice from the lines and makes the job of restoring power more or less a routine patch-up job to be replaced by permanent repair at a later date. Not so with this storm. The temperature didn't rise high enough to melt the ice until sometime Sunday. The result of this was that many of the lines that had not been damaged during the storm were downed after the power was restored because the ice would melt from one wire first and



Ice buildup, while pretty in a way, caused a lot of grief.

allow it to fly into its still ice-laden mate. This would, of course, burn one wire—or both—in two; interrupting the flow of power to those members who may have had it restored just a few minutes or a few hours earlier.

But still the crews persevered. Quicker now, with the ice melting, the weather moderating and with little wind, they began to make headway: first repair and restore the three-phase circuits (these are lines with four wires on them and usually mounted on crossarms), and then patrol and repair the single-phase feeder lines from those circuits (normally two wires).

This is in line with Corn Belt's policy which, like that of every utility in the nation, is to restore power to as many members as possible in the shortest time and

then to repair the damage at individual homes and farmsteads. This is the logical, economical and the most accommodating method of repair during a disaster of this scope. All approaches to the problem have been tried in our 51-year history, and this method is the best.

The persistence started paying off. By Sunday the radios were crackling with messages from tired but proud line crews from throughout the territory that this breaker was "closed and holding"; this fuse had been replaced and the circuit was back in service.

Proud they are and excited they were. These rough, tough, intelligent men who represent our front line of defense will tell you that there are few thrills to compare with the feeling they get when, late at night, after struggling sometimes for hours to repair a circuit, to finally throw the switch on a breaker in a substation or on a feeder line. Immediately, the security lights begin to glow brightly, signalling a return of much-needed warmth and resumption of a normal life to perhaps as many as 500 homes or as few as five. Great momentary satisfaction, then quickly on to the next assignment.

Until finally, at 6:30 p.m. Monday the 19th, we could say a weary "good job, well-done" to our 56 employees because the homes and businesses of all members had at last been reunited with their old friend—electricity.

The employees are unanimous in their praise for the patience and understanding of the membership. The crews in the field were oftentimes overwhelmed with the generosity shown to them by way of food and refreshment offered as thank-yous. And many times offered to these mud-spattered linemen in immaculate living rooms. Countless members stopped by a work site during the height of the battle to express their thanks to individual crews. Countless others have called in or written their thank-yous. To all of you we say a collective, "You're welcome, it was a pleasure. But, let's not do it again real soon."

The management and board of directors have never been so proud of all the employees. The service they performed safely and efficiently under extremely adverse conditions constitute a record that will be difficult to surpass. But they no doubt will do just that in the future.

To those members who have not yet taken the time to say thank you to these stalwarts, a friendly wave as you meet one of the red trucks will be appreciated. Or, if you would prefer to throw your hat in the air, applaud, honk your horn, whistle through your teeth or, perhaps, give the crew a hug, they would enjoy that too.

Safety quiz

True or False?

Unlike overhead power lines, household current is not strong enough to cause permanent injury.

False—Household current can kill. Use cords that aren't frayed. Don't overload receptacles. Don't operate electric appliances near water or with wet hands.

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC., BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS CORN BELT ELECTRIC

Think air conditioning

And then think Bill-Buster!! That's right, now's the time to plan to lessen your cooling costs. Don't put it off. Do it now. It only takes a phone call.

Now—What is Bill Buster!!? Well, Bill-Buster!! is a control device that over 1,600 members have had us attach to the outside unit of their central air conditioners.

Here's what it does. When the inside thermostat calls for cooling and the outside temperature is above 88 degrees, Bill-Buster!! will go into action. It will tell the furnace fan to run continuously to control the humidity in the house and will signal the compressor in the outside unit to operate for a set period each half-hour.

It's a neat deal, too! Bill-Buster!! is free. The installation is free. You maintain your in-house comfort, Bill-Buster!! can't hurt your equipment, and you help the co-op lower its peak summer demand. This translates to a lower Wholesale Power Cost Adjustment for all of us every month.

Here's the GREAT part. We'll credit your August and September bills (July and August usage) \$25 each just for using Bill-Buster!!. That's right, fifty dollars worth of free cooling kwh's for using a free device that we'll install for free.

You can't beat this deal with a stick. Call the office today and tell 'em you want Bill-Buster!! installed.

Water heater controller

This is the best idea we've had in a long-time to reduce our peak demand.

Say you have an electric water heater. Makes no difference whether it's new or one you've had and used for years.

Have us install a free controller on it and we'll credit your account up to \$20 per peak month. July, August, December, January and February are the months when we ask our supplier for the most electricity from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.

The controller will shut-off the power to the heater for two, three or four hours during the 5 p.m. to

10 p.m. period in those five peak months. The other seven months it won't work at all.

You choose the number of off-hours. If you decide to turn your heater off for four hours per day we'll credit your account \$20 per peak month for \$100 total yearly credit. A three hour shut-off is worth \$17.50 per peak month (\$87.50 total) and a two hour turn off will get you a \$15 credit per peak month (\$75 total).

This is a painless way to save money on your electric bill and still enjoy the benefits of electric water heating.

Call the office today for more details.

Water heater co-op plan

Hey—Have you heard yet about the electric water heater program we've got going?

If you've been thinking of replacing your old gas or electric heater, this should hasten your decision.

We'll share the cost of the new electric heater. That's right—we'll share the cost. You buy any size, any model from any dealer and we'll pay part of the cost after we

install a free water heater controller.

For a 50- or an 80-gallon heater we'll pay you \$125 cash. Forty gallon units are worth \$100 and the 30-gallon size will get you \$75.

For additional water heating savings, see the above article on the benefits that will be yours for using the water heater controller.

Closed Good Friday

The offices of Corn Belt Electric Co-operative will be closed on Friday, April 13, in observance of Good Friday.

In the event of an electrical emergency, please phone 309-662-5330 or 800-322-6541.

RURAL TV AND CBEC

- * One-stop shopping
- * Low prices
- * 44 channels
- * We're local
- * We'll be here next year.

Corn Belt Electric Cooperative Inc. ENERGY SAVING TIPS

Alas, the Illinois Department of Energy Rural Home Energy Grant Program is finished. There may be a small allotment made available later this spring. We'll announce it in this publication when we are notified.

We have however, found another source of money for home improvements that may be of interest to many of you.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) has available to low income, rural home owners federally backed loans and grants under the 504 Loan and Grant program to upgrade their homes.

The money can be used to repair or replace roofs, screens, storm doors and windows; install insulation, heating systems, water and waste disposal systems or correcting other necessary safety or health hazards.

Attention: farmers, electrical contractors, grain bin distributors

Corn Belt Electric Cooperative wants you to be aware of new changes in the National Electric Safety Code that has come about with its 1990 edition. These changes specifically address the placement of grain bins in relation to overhead power lines; whether alongside the road, up a lane, across country, etc.

Before your site location is final please contact the Engineering Department as to placement of the bin to determine the distance needed from the overhead

To be eligible, the home owner must have owned and occupied the house for at least one year and have enough income to repay the loan. The maximum amount available through either a loan or combination loan and grant is \$15,000. Interest on the loan is 1 percent.

For those over 62, grants of up to \$5,000 can be used to cover any part of a loan the owner cannot reasonably be expected to pay. If given a grant, the homeowner must continue to live in the home for at least three years or repay the grant.

Other stipulations: the money must not be used to merely improve the appearance of the home; and the repairs covered by the money must eliminate all health and safety hazards.

The 504 program is designed for senior citizens on fixed incomes who are struggling to keep their homes but is available to all rural home owners.

Additional information about the program is available through the Farmers Home Administration office serving your county. Look in the phone book under U.S. Government-USDA Service Center.

power lines.

Failure will result in additional charges to you or the owner of the bins if the Cooperative is required to alter its facilities accommodating the grain bins to comply with the National Electric Safety Code.

Please don't hesitate to contact our Engineering Department.

We want to help your installation, not hinder it.

New members

Welcome to all new CBEC members who officially became a part of the cooperative family in January 1990!

Lori A. Anderson
Mike Anderson, Steve P. Tolch
Rick & Kathy Arnold
Thomas P. Baird
Brian P. & Darlene Beckman
Clifford & Esther Bennett
Thomas G. & Becky L. Bergeron
Todd Breese
Roger & Deborah Burns
Mark W. & Melissa A. Carter
James E. Cato
Steve Cherry
Jimmy W. Dean II
Dekalb-Pfizer Genetics, Tom Floyd
Guy & Kathleen Diciaula
George W. Dyson
Michelle R. Ellingson

Karen Emmons
Stephen W. & Joyce E. Erschen
Randy & Robin Faulk
Susan D. Fisher
Leonard & Joyce Gibs
Bill Graham
Jeffrey J. & Catherine J. Greenberg
Mike & Cindy Halloran
Gary S. & Eugenia Harken
Shawn Hartzold
Bill W. & Ginger A. Hines
Stanley J. & Verna R. Hodel
Jones Intercable, Inc.
Donald W. Kerber
Timothy P. & Dawn M. Donihue Knapp
Kundra Construction Company
Roger & Cynthia Latham

Curtis E. & M.C. Reed Litchfield
Larry D. Martin
Terrence E. Martin
Jeffrey & Patricia McCabe
Toria K. McFadden
Richard A. & Jane Anne Moore
Mark Allyn & Shelly Kay Nelson
Robert S. Pigott
Polk & Sons, Inc., Larry E. Polk, Pres.
Peter J. Ramirez
Jeff Ratcliffe
Brian K. Raymer
Angela Reed
Keith W. Riddle
Amy A. Riens
Rhonda L. Riggen
Andy A. Roth

Chesley Staton
Gregory K. & Donna Sue Sydney
Ronald J. Taets II
Timothy J. Taylor
Douglas & Debbie Tetrault
Monica K. Tripp
William D. Tucker
Donald L. Van Prooyen
Debra S. Watkins
Ronald A. & Marcia L. Weber
Gregory & Crystal Whited
Eric J. Wilkens
Randy Witzig
William & Deirdre A. Zychlewicz

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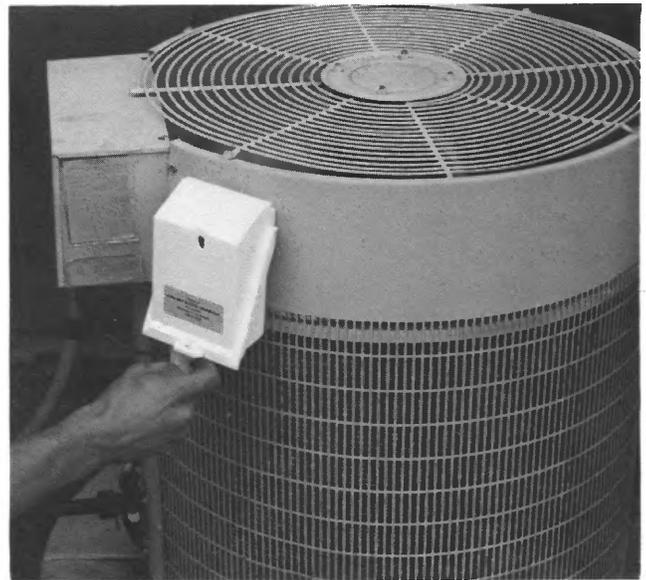
BILL-BUSTER!! The grape

Actually, that's a misprint. It should be GREAT! But BILL-BUSTER!! is really great because it can take the blues and the sour grapes out of your air conditioning costs this summer.

Here's how. For using BILL-BUSTER!! we'll grant you a credit of \$25 on each of the electric bills you receive in August and September (that's the July and August usage). And there will be no charge for BILL-BUSTER!! or its installation. It's all for FREE! You should be smiling about now.

And wondering what BILL-BUSTER!! is. Well, it is a neat little device that attaches to the outside cabinet of your central air conditioner. When the outside temperature goes above 88 degrees and your inside thermostat calls for cooling, BILL-BUSTER!! goes to work. It will order the furnace fan to run continuously and, at the same time, direct the compressor in the outside unit to run for about 20 minutes out of each half-hour. This mode of operation will continue until the thermostat in the house is satisfied.

This simple arrangement performs a very important function. It helps to reduce our demand for high-priced summer electricity from our supplier. The co-op saves money in its purchase and the savings are passed to the member. One-thousand-six-hundred-thirty-five members already have BILL-BUSTER!! installed and



BILL-BUSTER!! installed neatly on the outside.

received their \$50 in credits last summer. Why don't you join them this summer? Include BILL-BUSTER!! in your summer budget planning.

Call the office and tell them you want BILL-BUSTER!!.

Saving money

Saving money—saving money—saving money. Is that all we ever think of? It is when we think of our membership and our owners. They're one and the same you know. That's the beauty of a cooperative. What each one or all of us do can make a difference.

Take water heating for example. We have a free energy controller that we want to install on your electric water heater. The installation doesn't cost anything either. And, we'll give you a credit on your bills for July, August, December, January and February just for using it.

By using it you help to reduce the cost of electricity for yourself and for all members. The controller is

designed to shut off the electricity to the heater during the evening hours in those five months. The other seven months the water heater will not be controlled.

Of course, you decide how many hours per day the power will be off to the heater. You may choose two hours, three hours or four hours. The credit you receive will be \$15 per peak month (\$75 total), \$17.50 (\$87.50 total) or \$20 (\$100 total) respectively.

The co-op reduces the cost of peak electricity and the member gets the savings. See, we can make a difference.

So come on, help the co-op help you. Have us install a water heater controller soon.

Three reelected at annual meeting

Three area community leaders were reelected to the board of directors of Corn Belt Electric Cooperative during your cooperative's 52nd annual meeting March 10 in Bloomington. Retained for three-year terms on the board were Michael Killian of Lexington, Rae F. Payne of Towanda and John W. H. Tompkins of LeRoy. They represent District 1 of the service area.

In reports presented at the meeting, board president Payne and manager J. D. Reeves updated members on a number of subjects relating to activities during 1989.

Corn Belt's membership continues to grow, Payne said. In 1987, the cooperative had 11,344 members, he said, adding that in 1989 the number had grown to 12,109. "Even though the majority of the new services have been added in the Bloomington-Normal area the past few years, we are now seeing more activity in other parts of the service area," Payne added.

The cooperative continues to give high priority to consideration of programs and services involving new technologies, Payne said. "If such programs and services can provide benefits to Corn Belt members, the cooperative will use them," he told the members.

Reeves said the Bill-Buster!! program has met with considerable success. This year-old program involves installation of "load leveling" devices on participating consumers' central air conditioning. "Each participant received \$25 monthly in electric bill credits last August and September. More than 1,600 members participate in the program," Reeves said.

The number of Rural TV satellite television programming package subscribers also continues to grow. "More than 400 subscribers in areas where cable television is not available are now receiving this specially designed programming," Reeves added.

Reeves reported on the damage caused by the mid-

February ice storm that swept central Illinois. He said Corn Belt repair costs are estimated at \$400,000.

Reeves reminded members of Corn Belt's rate stability over the past several years. "In 1985 the average cost per kilowatt-hour to Corn Belt's members was 9.73 cents. The average cost per kilowatt-hour in 1989 was 9.64 cents," he said.

He attributed much of the stability to steady wholesale power costs from Soyland Power Cooperative, Corn Belt's power supplier. Soyland has an ownership share in the nuclear Clinton Power Station, as well as minority interest in 35 fossil-fueled plants owned by Illinois Power Company and Central Illinois Public Service Company.

He cautioned members, however, that a rate increase may be inevitable. "We have not had a rate increase for electrical distribution purposes since 1982," Reeves said. "We have been able to offer stable rates by reducing our business costs and increasing sales. We've been able to spread our fixed costs. We know that can't go on much longer," he added. He said he did not know when an increase would be necessary, nor how much would be needed.

Secretary-treasurer Frank Thorp of Clinton said total revenue for 1989 was \$16,079,140, down slightly from 1988. Cost of power for the past year was down also, from \$11,065,260 in 1988 to \$10,995,528 in 1989. During 1989, Corn Belt paid out \$1,163,239 in taxes, he added.

Following the meeting, the board met in reorganizational session and elected officers: Payne, president; Stephen Schertz of El Paso, vice president; Gary Frankeberger of Bloomington, secretary-treasurer; and Janice Reimer of Carlock, assistant secretary-treasurer.



Lee Thomas, manager of operations, and Terri Tibbs, operations assistant, oversee the food table.



Bob Fishbach, back right, manager of office services, looks on as Sandi Carlson, foreground, payroll clerk, Dorothy Hocker, member accounts supervisor and Marcie Brienen, accounting supervisor, register members.



Members of the board of directors are pictured above. Seated from left are Rae Payne, Stephen Schertz, Gary L. Frankeberger and Janice Reimer. Standing from left are Jeffrey D. Reeves, manager, Thomas Johns, John Butterfield, John W.H. Tompkins, Frank Thorp, Michael Killian, Ralph Steiger and William S. Bach, attorney.



Three members of Corn Belt Electric Cooperative were reelected to the board during the cooperative's 52nd annual meeting Saturday, March 10, in Bloomington. From left are John W. H. Tompkins of LeRoy, Michael Killian of Lexington, Rae F. Payne of Towanda and cooperative manager J. D. Reeves.



Secretary-treasurer Frank Thorp gives his report to the membership.

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC., BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS CORN BELT ELECTRIC

Attention electricians, homebuilders, developers

Please be advised that Corn Belt Electric Cooperative has enhanced its policy regarding the installation of underground permanent service in the following manner:

The Cooperative will continue to install secondary permanent service at the same cost but will only do so to the side of the house located within 10 feet of the corner of the house closest to the cooperative's transformer. The side of house is construed to mean a side which is not considered the front or back of the house.

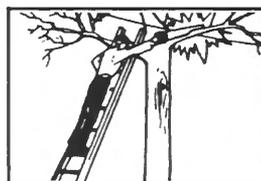
This will help eliminate problems that occur when various structures are built over the underground cables and around metering facilities. The effective date of this change is May 1, 1990, however, we encourage you to implement this change in your construction plans as soon as possible.

Please contact the Engineering Department as soon as possible to coordinate current services and any other questions you might have.

We appreciate your help in this matter as we institute this change that will help you, the homeowner and Corn Belt Electric Cooperative provide the best reliable service possible.

History of electricity

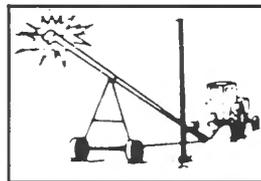
2000 B.C.—A Babylonian merchant created the world's first known air conditioning system by having his servants spray water on the floors and walls of his open-air room. Things could get very slippery, but the evaporation and night cooling made life more comfortable. He didn't need BILL-BUSTER!! You do.



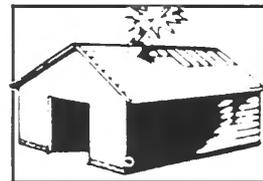
Trimming Trees



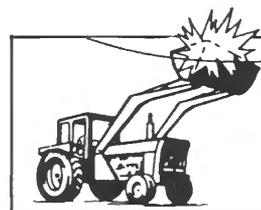
CB Antennas



Transporting Grain Augers



Building Under Lines



Tractor Loader

HEADS UP

POWER LINES
ARE HOT

New members

Welcome to all new CBEC members who officially became a part of the cooperative family in February 1990!

Celestine Allen
Paul M. Amundson
Alvin Beck
Karen Bounds
James Lee Bresnahan
Garry & Janet Brown
Robert L. & Joan F. Burger
Suzanne Busch
Edward O. Carrow
Cessens Transport Co.
Debra Claycomb
Wesley G. & Georgia M. Clifton
Robert F. & Birtie M. Condor
Eldon Lee & Michelle Rae Cusey
Kris D. DeFrain
Don E. & Carolyn S. Dennis
Lynette Dumais

Charles Durbin
John T. & Nadean A. Foley
Randall Alan French
Robert L. & Sally I. Georgi
Goodfield State Bank
Barbara Grubbs
David D. Heindol
Maury D. Hoskins
Anna Jackson
Johnson Transfer & Fuel
Nigel M. Keel
Gary L. & Phyllis J. Kemp
Richard J. & Karen R. Kitchell
Randy C. Kohnick
Kurt & Karen L. Kraft
George F. Kuzelka
Darrell L. & Drvilleen E. Lane

Robert R. Lawrence III
Eugene A. & Donn L. Liesse
Julie Ann Lofthouse
Aaron Masters
John R. & Dorothy A. Medley
Mitsubishi Motor Sales
of America Inc.
R.J. & Karen A. Morris
James Mundt
David R. Namoff
Normal Council Home Inc.
Alan Jon Dison
Daniel L. & Kellie S. Peal
Ruth A. Webb Estate
James L. Rutherford
David Schilkoski & Alice A. Carmody
Debra K. Simmons

Lance & Laurie J. Sleeter
D. Wesley & Sarah S. Smith
Scott C.E. & Marla F.E. Sullivan
Debra E. Swearingen
Sharon K. Sylvester
Kelvin G. Tarrance
Harry C. Tenuta
Mike Tindill
Bernard J. & Penny S. Toureene
Unit Distribution
Jack Vick
Paul & Jill Walker
Joe W. & Patricia J. Walsh
William E. White
Randall Troy & Dawn Marie Wikoff
Vernon E. & Brenda J. Wilson

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CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC., BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

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Two youths to Washington

The ten very bright finalists in our 31st annual Youth to Washington essay contest met on April 4. They expressed their views on how rural electrification has benefited the United States to an audience of teachers, parents, cooperative directors and staff members.

After the presentations and the deliberations of our three judges, Tim Vogel and Donald Morris, both of Delavan, were selected to represent Corn Belt on the week-long Youth to Washington tour next month.

Donald and Tim will travel to the capitol city with essayists representing the other Illinois electric cooperatives. Enroute, the group will spend a day touring the Civil War battlefield at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. In Washington they will join more than 1,000 other student leaders from 36 states to participate in Rural Electric Youth Week. The event is sponsored and arranged by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association of which Corn Belt Electric is a member.

The Illinois contingent will meet and discuss their concerns with the Illinois Congressional delegation, including Senators Simon and Dixon and our Representatives. If time allows, President Bush will greet them during their tour of the White House.

The students will visit an embassy and most of the national landmarks including the Washington Cathedral. A moonlit social cruise on the Potomac River is one of the many relaxing events scheduled for the participants.

Corn Belt Electric Cooperative manager of Member



Donald Morris (left) and Tim Vogel, both of Delavan, will represent CBEC on the Washington tour. With the winners is Gary Frankeberger of Bloomington, a CBEC director.

Services Jerry Durlinger, in congratulating the 10 finalists, pointed out the exciting social and educational opportunities of the Washington tour for Tim and Donald as well as those of the trip all will make to Springfield to join fellow essayists from all over the state in celebrating Illinois Rural Electric Youth Day. (See story on page 16c.)

Mayday! Mayday!

Cooling costs will increase your electric bill this summer. Your central air conditioner will sit outside in the heat and work its little heart out to keep you cool inside. And all the time it's running, the wheels in the meter will keep going around. Meanwhile, you, the homeowner, will be worrying about the dollars it is costing to be barely comfortable. You know what? While you are paying for comfort, you could be enjoying COMFORT by using BILL-BUSTER!!

How? Well, we'll give you \$50 worth of credits on your August and September bills (that's July and August usage) just for using BILL-BUSTER!!. No kidding! Fifty

dollars could amount to as much as 24 percent of your total cooling costs for the entire summer.

Now, how can we do this? Simple. BILL-BUSTER!! is a control device we install on your central air conditioning system that helps limit our very expensive summer peak. The savings are passed to the member using BILL-BUSTER!! by way of the \$50 credit. And that isn't all! Every member will benefit whether they have BILL-BUSTER!! installed or not. That's because by reducing our summer peak, we also reduce the Wholesale Power Cost Adjustment we all pay each month.

So join the rush for summer savings. Call the office and ask for BILL-BUSTER!!. We are installing them now.

Coping with a summer outage

Winter storms, summer storms and storms in between. They all bring one thing in common—**power outages!** You don't like them. We don't like them. But just like our relation—we're stuck with them.

Outages are strange. They can plunge an area into darkness, or they might only cause the lights to go dim and stay that way. A dim outage is the worst kind because it indicates low-voltage power coming into your house. Low-voltage is very hard on electric motors. When this condition occurs, disconnect or shut off any appliance with a motor—furnace, air conditioner, sump pump, refrigerator, freezer, etc. It could save you some hefty motor replacement costs.

If you think it will be a long outage, such as some members experienced during the February ice storm, disconnect all circuits except a lighting circuit. Disconnecting these circuits will ensure that electronic appliances (TVs, VCRs, microwaves, etc.) will not be damaged by a power surge when the power is restored. Appliances with electronic components are much like light bulbs. The components begin deteriorating the first time the appliance is used. After many (sometimes only a few) hours of use these components will fail. A power surge, as the electricity is restored, could very well be the "straw that breaks the camel's back." So don't take chances. Unplug those appliances.

You can make your next extended outage more bearable if you keep the following on hand and easily accessible:

- a. Your map location number
- b. Flashlights and extra batteries
- c. Candles and matches—set the candle in a two-pound coffee can for safety
- d. Extra fuel for lanterns
- e. Canned food such as tuna or canned meat, powdered milk and juices, cereals
- f. A transistor radio and extra battery
- g. A wind-up alarm clock
- h. Plastic water jugs

If you begin to worry about your frozen foods, perhaps an investment in a supply of dry ice would be in order. There are two suppliers in our service territory—M. Capodice and Sons in Bloomington and Continental Carbonics in Decatur. They are listed in the white pages of the respective phone books.

Following these suggestions will make it easier to cope with a power outage. Think ahead and prepare for an emergency by having a plan in your household. Remember to stay calm. Your electricity will be on as quickly as possible because your cooperative will work around the clock to restore service.

U.S. Census Bureau now recruiting locally

Equal opportunity employment with the U.S. Census Bureau is now available in your community.

Crew leaders, enumerators, data transcribers and office personnel are needed for temporary work in your local communities.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens, be 18 years old and have a driver's license. They must also successfully complete a written test to qualify for census jobs.

The rate of pay will range from \$5.50 to \$7 per hour. Census workers will be paid for their training and they will be reimbursed for mileage.

For further information about census jobs, call (309)663-6646 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

DID YOU ANSWER THE CENSUS?

Memorial Day

The offices of Corn Belt Electric Cooperative will be closed Friday, May 28, to commemorate Memorial Day.

In the event of an emergency, please phone 800-322-6541.

Rural TV and CBEC

- *One-stop shopping
- *Low prices
- *44 channels
- *We're local
- *We'll be here next year.

Your hairdryer could be the most dangerous appliance you own

Morning rush hour in your bathroom may seem routine. You shower, wash your face and dry your hair. But if your shower has left your bathroom misty, and water is splashed on your sink and counter, and in a hurry, you plug in your hairdryer with hands still wet from washing your face, stop!

You could be setting yourself up for a severe or even fatal injury from electrical shock.

Any electrical appliance can be hazardous when used near water. If you have questions about the safe use of electrical power, call your rural electric cooperative. A member of our staff will be glad to offer suggestions concerning the safest, most efficient uses of electricity.



Seven of the ten finalists and their teacher (all of Delavan) met with Senator Maitland and Representative Ewing at the Senate podium. Roxane Haycock, Lisa Perfetti and Patrick Wiemer were unable to attend Youth Day '90. From left are: Tom Moore, chaperone, Paula Brown, Shane Cunningham, Donald Morris, Mark Ripper, Senator Maitland, Representative Ewing, Matt Schroeder, Tim Vogel, Tim Stone, Debbie McCameron, chaperone, and the teacher, Alison Nelson.

Youth Day '90

April 18 was Illinois Rural Electric Youth Day in Springfield by Proclamation of Governor James Thompson.

Seven of our 10 finalists and their teacher joined more than 160 other youngsters from throughout the state to celebrate with a tour of state landmarks, Lincoln shrines and the Lincoln home and neighborhood.

The highlight of the day was a personal visit our group had with Senator John Maitland of Bloomington and Representative Tom Ewing of Pontiac. It was a meeting designed for them to discuss current problems and possible solutions with these energetic and personable lawmakers.

A luncheon, held in honor of the Youth Day participants at the Springfield Ramada Renaissance, featured State Representative Art Tenhouse of Liberty

in the 96th district. Mr. Tenhouse, as a teenager, represented Adams Electrical Co-operative on the 1967 Youth to Washington tour and had been serving on that co-op's board of directors prior to his move to Springfield as a State Representative. He recalled his involvement in the essay contest and trip to Washington as the "biggest" highlight of his life because it awakened in him an awareness of the cooperative concept and the rewards to be gained by a group of people who will work together toward a common goal. Mr. Tenhouse urged the attendees to get involved in local politics, issues and events even at this early age.

The directors and staff of Corn Belt Electric Cooperative are very proud of the youngsters who participated in the contest this year and thank them and their teachers. We sincerely hope that they continue the discipline necessary to research a subject thoroughly before voicing an opinion. They can, if they want, be the leaders of their communities, their state or the country.

Safety quiz

Trimming or cutting trees near electrical lines:

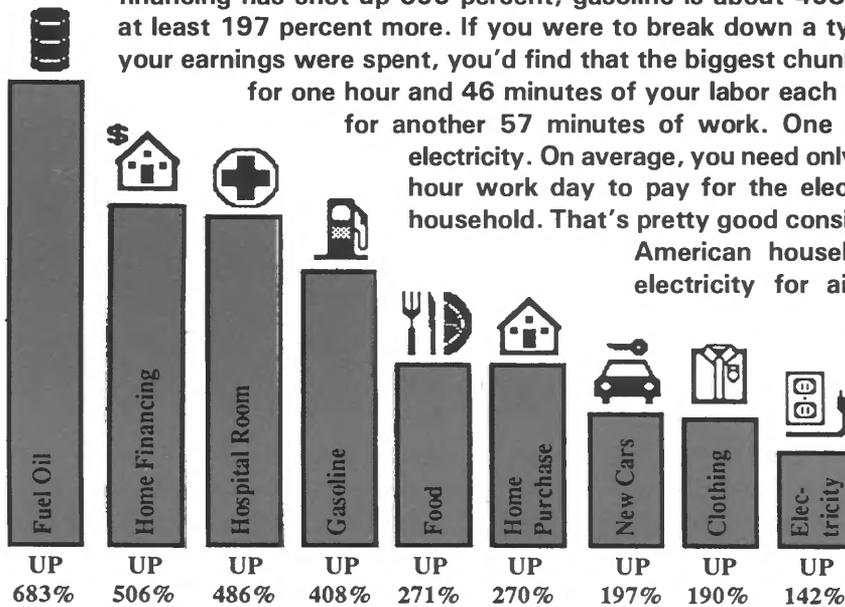
- is dangerous because of falling branches.
- is dangerous because branches can conduct electric current.
- is dangerous because falling trees or branches can knock down the lines.
- all of the above.

The answer is d. Trimming trees near power lines is extremely dangerous because of the combined hazards of falling limbs and electrical lines. Also, tree limbs can very readily conduct electricity. So don't take chances. Call the cooperative and ask to have the tree trimmed or taken down. We don't like to have limbs around the lines either. But don't wait till the last minute to call. We need some time to schedule the work.

Electricity costs compared to other consumer goods

Everyone knows that things cost more today than before and it's commonly thought that electricity is among the culprits. The fact is, however, electricity has remained a bargain. Since 1967 home financing has shot up 506 percent; gasoline is about 408 percent higher and new cars cost at least 197 percent more. If you were to break down a typical eight-hour workday into how your earnings were spent, you'd find that the biggest chunk goes to federal taxes, accounting for one hour and 46 minutes of your labor each day. State and local taxes account

for another 57 minutes of work. One of the smallest bites comes from electricity. On average, you need only work 15 minutes out of each eight-hour work day to pay for the electricity you used in operating your household. That's pretty good considering that since 1967 the average American household has *doubled* its demand for electricity for air conditioning, heating, cooking, entertainment and so on. Because electricity is invisible, we simply never notice all the work it's doing every second, every day, all year long.



Increase in Cost Since 1967

(from Panola-Harrison Electric's (Texas) "Co-op News")

New members

Welcome to all new CBEC members who officially became a part of the cooperative family in March 1990!

Steve & Sue Alexander
Romualdo Alvarez
Stephanie H. Amster
Kevin L. Baker
Sheila R. Baker
Larry E. & Kay Lynn Beecher
Kevin & A. Taylor Bohan
Michael R. & Lynda J. Boyer
Brady & Associates Const.
Michael Brandes
Joan H. Breneman
Steven K. & Penny R. Brown
Daniel J. Brucker
Randall Bruns
Thomas B. & Michele M. Burkholder
Doug Burmaster
Joseph E. & Kathleen A. Burzinski
Timothy D. Cervon
C.R. Jr. & Barbara J. Charlson
William F. Clause
Susan Lynn Cohen
Charles Conley Jr.
David R. & Rebecca D. Connour
Crowley Cellular
Wayne A. & Shannon N. Davenport
D. Gaither Jr. & Marie E. Dean
John R. Deterts

Paul W. & Sharon Devine
Jim & Marilyn M. Dietrich
Shawn L. Domesick
Anthony W. & Mary Egts
Scott C. & Maria F. England-Sullivan
Kevin Fahling
Wanda M. Fitts
Jerry D. Fouts
Jennifer L. Geer
Karen S. Gottlieb
James R. & Shelly R. Gottsacker
Ronald W. & Holly S. Greenwell
Stephan L. & Monica J. Guenin
Ronald J. & Mary C. Hale
Joseph D. & Debra M. Hanchett
Michelle R. Harpster
Rex A. Havens
Mark & Jean N. Hodges
Phil Hohulin & C.L. Heerde
Shirley J. Horner
IBP Inc.
Todd D. Isaacson
Hugh J. Ivany
Gary L. Johnson Jr.
David W. & Colleen M. Kelly
Teresa S. Kiehl
David G. & Signe Kimmel

Robert L. & Cynthia E. King
Wallace L. & Pamela J. Kundert
Frank W. & Shelley Laesch
Scott K. Landis
Merlin I. & Teresa Landwehr
Mark C. & Artena J. Lee
Robert J. & Inez I. Lux
Carol Lynn
Amy Jo Martin
Midwest Construction
Gregory E. & Paula A. Miinch
Francis Scott Miller
George F. Muzelka
Nancy Novak
Roger & Tammy O'Rear
Mark M. & Roberta Overfelt
Snehal S. Parikh
Craig A. Patrick
Debbie S. Phipps
Duane L. & Suzanne M. Pitchford
Ronald L. & Kathy S. Pflederer
Paul Redmond
Greg Ridgeway
Rebecca I. Roberts
Roger's Supply Co.
SPCSL Corporation
Eldon & Patricia L. Schultz

Bryan E. Scott
John L. Sendelbach
Robert W. & Debra D. Shannon
Jerry R. Smith
Kent H. Smith
Timothy C. Smith
Clara S. Snyder
John Sprague
Clinton W. Spruell
Sue L. Stein
Paul Taylor
Brit & Becky Jo Todd
Daniel D. & Rebecca S. Umstatt
Stan Valley
Richard L. Voitik
Jeffery A. & Michelle A. Wade
Richard Jr. & Karen J. Wells
Cynthia West
Gladys White
Scott Whitmore
Brian J. & Jane L. Wilkinson
Michael & Connie Williams
Robert A. Wills
Kerry P. & Roberta B. Wojcik
Chun Chang & Iue Yea Yeh

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC., BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS CORN BELT ELECTRIC

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC., BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

An Equal Opportunity Employer (M/F/H)



Two ice-laden poles fell together.

Ice storm aftermath

Remember the February ice storm? We sure do. The ice is gone but the damage it caused to our distribution system is still lingering and will be tormenting us, all of us, for most of the summer.

Here's why. The repairs made during the storm were temporary repairs just to get the "juice" flowing again. That is standard procedure for all electric utilities during a storm of that magnitude.

The permanent repair or rebuilding always begins some weeks after the disaster. The delay is necessary in order to determine how much damage there is to be repaired. This called for our personnel in trucks and autos to patrol every mile of our more than 2,650 miles of overhead lines looking at every pole and every piece of hardware on every pole; then making a note on what is to be done at or to that pole. The mass of information had to be digested to determine how much replacement material to order. Once the material arrived, the permanent repairs began.

Of course, the regular rush of requests for electric service for new subdivisions and homes continues, as does the routine maintenance work. The repair and rebuilding has to be scheduled around the new work. Corn Belt is one of the fastest-growing electric cooperatives in the state, and because of that fact, the new work is enough to keep our construction and maintenance department fully occupied. So, since April 30,

that department has been working 10-hour days.

Just how much storm-related repair is there to be done? An indication of the amount of work ahead is the 425 job tickets that were generated from the inspection. This is only an indication because a "job" may involve one pole site or perhaps several miles of line. By category, the jobs include:

- straightening 883 leaning poles—had the ground been frozen these could easily have been broken poles
- resagging 340 spans of line
- replacing about 170 broken poles
- permanently reattaching 96 spans of wire to the pole insulators
- replacing 15 broken crossarms
- splice and resag 103 spans of neutral wire that are still on the ground
- replace 1 to 10 spans of wire at 16 different locations
- completely rebuild $3\frac{3}{4}$ miles of line

Obviously, much of this work will require the power to be off on various circuits for varying lengths of time. The cooperative will make an attempt to notify those members who will be affected.

We'll all be inconvenienced by this project throughout the summer. The management asks for your tolerance.

Children and extension cords

The electric extension cord is a part of contemporary living. People continue to use more and more electric appliances, and it's rare, even in new dwellings, to find enough wall outlets to eliminate the occasional need for extension cords.

Investigations were made of 20 accidents that involved extension cords and children who suffered electrical burns of the mouth. It was revealed that the intense heat produced in this type of accident almost always causes tissue damage to the lips and often the tongue, too. Healing is slow, and permanent scarring of the mouth and lips can result.

Contrary to the common assumption, these accidents are not caused by children biting and chewing through the insulation on the cord. The accidents involved infants who were teething, children who were sucking or chewing on the receptacle of the cord and children who were attempting to disconnect the extension cord from an appliance service cord.

Since children may not have the strength to pull apart a tight-fitting connection, they sometimes resort to putting one end of the connection in their mouth and pulling on the other end with both hands.

Regardless of how the accidents occur, the resulting injuries are quite similar. Saliva serves as a conductor, and the moist mucous membranes of the mouth and lips offer little resistance to the flow of current. An electrical arc can cause tissue damage in a fraction of a second.

If the child's body is well grounded—for example, sitting in a wet diaper against a heating register that is grounded through the furnace—the accident could prove fatal.

How can children be protected from injuries associated with extension cords?

Electrically heated homes

The following comments by Jim D'Amico, president of Air Conditioning Contractors of America (ACCA), appeared in a recent issue of "Air Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration News":

About 10 years ago a manufacturer's representative told me that he believed eventually all homes in this country would be heated with electricity.

He cited the lack of fossil fuels (natural gas, oil, propane) as the primary reason, but mentioned the expense of installing gas pipelines and the cost of trucking fuel oil as other reasons.

I listened, but didn't really agree. Today, however, I agree.

In the next 20 to 30 years, we will see a major change in the way homes are heated. Fossil fuels will become a thing of the past as costs to retrieve, supply and deliver the needed service associated with fossil fuels

When buying extension cords, inspect them to make sure they fit snugly into the wall outlet, and make sure the receptacle is compatible with the plug of the service cord of the appliance.

Never leave an unused extension cord plugged into a receptacle. It is a handy, new plaything for a youngster whose line-of-sight is near floor level. Most toddlers will automatically put anything in their mouths that they can pick up.

Use extension cords for temporary situations only, and never run cords under carpets to hide them from sight. The carpet acts as insulation and could very well create a fire hazard.

The investigation focused on 15 accidents in which children received burns and electric shocks from placing metal objects in wall outlets. In seven cases the children received a substantial shock. One parent reported her child was thrown across the room, and another said his child became pale and fainted.

How can children be protected from injury from wall outlets?

An inexpensive and effective way is to insert plastic safety caps in all wall outlets that are not in use.

An alternative would be to use a safety outlet that accommodates a grounded plug and does not allow current to flow if a metal object is placed in only one slot. Such an outlet is designed so a metal object must be placed in both slots before current will flow from it. Even then, the risk of injury to a child from inserting a metal object in both slots is reduced due to the design of this type of outlet.

Of course, the best method of safeguarding against injury is to make sure that metal objects that are small enough to be inserted into a receptacle are kept out of reach of young children.

escalate.

But the overriding issue will be **safety**. I believe the day will come when combustibles in the home will be outlawed. Fire marshals nationwide will press for the elimination of gas- and oil-burning equipment based on safety, citing the preservation of life and property.

Underground pipelines of fossil fuels will be outlawed to preserve the environment as well as to remove the compounding threat coupled with natural disaster, as witness in the recent San Francisco earthquake.

Litigation over loss of life and property due to the combustion of fossil fuels, as well as the potential pollution of the environment, will drive liability insurance beyond the point of availability for even major corporations.

Utilities, in an effort to offset lost revenues from gas heating, will compete with major oil companies as natural gas will become competitive as an alternate for gasoline to power our vehicles.

Only a few days left
Hurry—Hurry

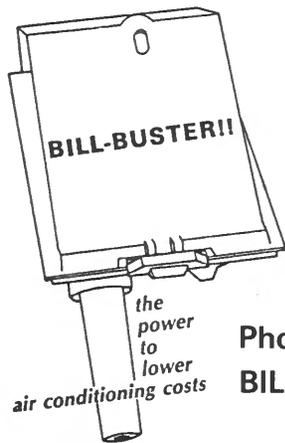
Corn Belt Electric Cooperative Members Can Reduce Their Air Conditioning Costs

Tired of hearing how high air conditioning bills will be?

WE'LL LOWER YOURS BY \$50!

That's right. Corn Belt will credit your July and August usages \$25 each if you have central air conditioning.

All you have to do is ask us to install a free BILL-BUSTER!! on your central air conditioner to receive this huge reduction in your cooling costs.



- The BILL-BUSTER!! and the installation are free
- You will experience little if any discomfort
- Works on all makes and models of central systems
- Will not harm air conditioning equipment
- You receive \$50 credit just for using BILL-BUSTER!!
- This summer and every summer
- Must be installed by June 30 to receive the credit for July.

Phone the office today to participate in this money saving offer.
BILL-BUSTER!! Good news from an old friend!

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC.

Members on life-support equipment

Corn Belt Electric Cooperative maintains a registry of members who are dependent upon electrically operated life-support equipment. But, unless you tell us, we have no way of knowing that there is such equipment in your home. If someone in your residence uses life-support equipment, call the office. We'll add your map location number to our Life Support Members Registry.

Of course, Corn Belt Electric cannot guarantee uninterrupted service. Make provisions to operate your equipment manually or with a generator in

the event of a power outage.

Should a power failure occur, please call the office immediately and notify us of your medical emergency. We'll make every reasonable effort to restore power first to those location numbers listed in our Life Support Members Registry.

On the other hand, if you were once on our Life Support Members Registry and are no longer dependent on the equipment, please call the office and help us bring our Registry up-to-date.

Attention: Farmers, electrical contractors, grain bin distributors

Corn Belt Electric Cooperative wants you to be aware of new changes in the National Electric Safety Code that have come about with its 1990 edition. These changes specifically address the placement of grain bins in relation to overhead power lines, whether alongside the road, up a lane, across country, etc.

Before your site location is final please contact the Engineering Department as to placement of the bin to determine the distance needed from the over-

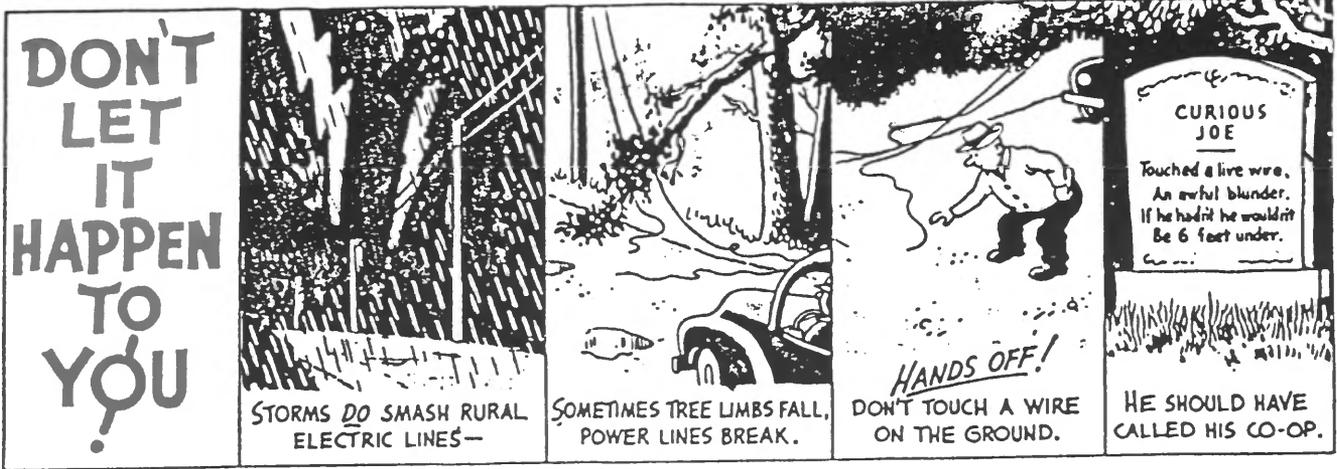
head power lines.

Failure will result in additional charges to you or the owner of the bins if the Cooperative is required to alter its facilities accommodating the grain bins to comply with the National Electric Safety Code.

Please don't hesitate to contact our Engineering Department.

We want to help your installation, not hinder it!

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC., BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS CORN BELT ELECTRIC



Cooperative facts

Cooperatives have several distinctive features. The first distinction is that cooperatives are democratically controlled by member-users.

It is fundamental that those who use and benefit from the organization must own and control the business. Otherwise, the benefits members are seeking (reliable, economic products and services) may not materialize. In most instances, cooperative members have one vote no matter how much the individual uses the cooperative's products or service. This is true for Corn Belt Electric Cooperative members.

Members vote to elect the board of directors at the annual membership meeting. This gives members a voice in controlling the business they own and use, because directors represent members. Directors decide policy and hire a manager, as in corporate firms.

The second distinctive feature is service at cost. Any net income after expenses is used to upgrade the electrical system or to retire debt. Otherwise, that capital would have to be borrowed and interest paid on it. The money saved by not paying interest helps to keep costs to members down.

And cooperatives are member-owned and -financed. Owners not only invest their money in the business, but also agree to use the cooperative's services.

Independence Day

The offices of Corn Belt Electric Cooperative will be closed Wednesday, July 4, to celebrate Independence Day.

In the event of an electrical emergency, please phone 800-322-6541.

New members

Welcome to all new CBEC members who officially became a part of the cooperative family in April 1990!

Ron Aeschleman
 Gary Ashley & Brenda Decker
 James R. Aylor
 Vincent P. & Martha M. Bacanskas
 Mark L. & Carol Ann Brannon
 Lyle Bremer Estate
 Lawrence W. & Janice M. Burke
 Russell L. Burnette
 Dale E. & Joyce Butz
 Timothy J. Carter
 Carol A. Christiansen
 Albert Cline
 Bradley G. & Patricia L. Cole
 David A. & Ann Cripe
 Jon Custer
 Michael C. & Patti E. Davidson
 Yvonne L. Delzell
 Albert Domescik
 Mark A. Doty
 Robert A. & Tracy R. Dunlap
 Michael E. & Kathleen A. Eldridge
 Teresa S. Estes
 Ron Ferris
 Diane M. Folken

Warren L. & Lori Givens
 Jim & Sharon Gleeson
 Mark A. & Dawn M. Gupton
 David & Mary Gura
 Ted & Kendra A. Hall
 Jeffrey D. Halsey
 Viola & John Hany
 Gary Harper
 John R. & Katherine M. Hawkins
 Daniel S. & Brenda L. Jenkins
 Trent R. Johnson
 Susan L. Keith
 Michelle K. Kenward
 Galen E. Koch
 Douglas D. & Barbara J. Koonce
 Lane & Leason Inc., Lane Vance
 Dennis Lane
 John T. Langfeld
 Deborah K. Lowe
 James C. Lowe
 Jill S. Mallory
 Douglas W. Martin & Kyle L. Martin
 Carol L. McCarthy
 Douglas K. & Charlene M. Miller

Kevin L. & Melissa S. Mohr
 Rodney A. Morgan
 Motohiko & Tomoko Nakamura
 Robert W. & Laura J. Nickrent
 Todd J. & Janet Z. D'Connell
 Nicholas G. D'Neall
 Joe O'Rourke
 Roland D. & Patricia A. Palmer
 Brian Pataki
 Bob J. & Kathleen A. Patrick
 Dawn M. Patton
 Hoam G. Pham
 Kenneth F. Price
 Michael A. & Linda J. Reandeanu
 Paula J. Reed
 Michael R. & Donna F. Regnier
 Alfonso & Teresa Reyes
 Susan Rieder
 Victoria Schrempf
 Stephen F. Schuler
 Philip E. & Glenda Scott
 David Simpson
 Michael & Donna Sliney
 Dennis V. Smith

Patricia Snyder
 David L. & Ann M. Sparks
 Larry J. & Barbara J. Stevig
 Mary & Ed Sweeney
 Yoriyas U. Tachibana
 Shinya Takada
 James R. & Lee Ann Thompson
 Randy Toohill
 Dean A. & Christe J. Van Loon
 Tim Vercler
 Patricia Wagenbach
 Al & Barbara E. Wagner
 Louis V. Wagner
 Connie L. Wakefield & Donald Wilcox
 Michael J. Walczynski
 Ina P. Webb
 Joseph S. & Cynthia L. Webb
 Juleen K. Welch
 Jeffrey D. Wheeler
 Daniel E. Wick
 Donald R. & Carol A. Withers

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC., BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS CORN BELT ELECTRIC

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC., BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

An Equal Opportunity Employer (M/F/H)

Outdoor work a pleasure with electric tools

Tired of pulling your guts out to start your lawn mower? Is your gas-powered weed-eater refusing its meals? Are you fed up with food from your patio grill that tastes like crude oil? Are the mosquitoes threatening to carry you and your loved ones away?

July is too hot for hassles. Fortunately, there is an electric alternative for almost every outdoor task—from mowing grass to lighting the charcoal to zapping bugs—that will leave more time for enjoyable pursuits.

One flip of a switch on an electric mower takes the place of repeated and often fruitless pulls on a starter rope. An enlightened member says, "You usually can't hear for two hours after using a gas mower. If everyone used electric mowers there would be a lot less noise. All you hear with an electric is the click of the grass being cut."

An electric weed trimmer never runs out of gas and its fuel doesn't need mixing. A couple of electric bug zappers can replace countless cans of insecticide—without harming the environment.

And if you've ever suffered through a cookout unable to get the charcoal started (despite repeated dousings with lighter fluid), try an electric charcoal lighter. This device is a coil that works like the burner on your electric stove. You place the coil on a bed of charcoal, cover it with more charcoal, and plug it in. Minutes later the charcoal is ready to use, without the fuss, the explosion, the smell or the taste of lighter fluid.

Better yet, get an electric grill. These grills are safe, with no open flames or danger of explosion. Use hickory or mesquite chips to create the flavor of a charcoal fire without the mess. And they are efficient too, costing about 15 cents per cookout to operate. Turn it on high for 10 minutes and it's ready to cook.

Often, yard work leaves a mess of leaves and grass

clippings behind. Cleanup is no problem with an electric leaf blower. This device is a powerful fan that directs a blast of air where you point it. They come in handy when autumn drops a tree full of leaves in your yard.

If painting the house is on your "to-do" list, trade in your brush for an airless paint sprayer. Painting with a sprayer eliminates brush marks and actually uses less paint than a brush or roller. And it can cut in half the time it takes to paint.

If the cord is a problem, cordless equipment is available. In the past, rechargeable battery-powered equipment lacked power. New technology has changed this, however. Cordless models may be your best bet if you don't have a lot of outdoor electric outlets.

If you invest in battery-powered equipment, do the recharging at night when demand for electricity is traditionally low.

In many cases, adding strategically placed outlets is cheaper than buying several extension cords. Generally, 200 feet is the longest practical length for an extension cord. Beyond this, a voltage drop occurs that may cause your equipment to function improperly. The National Electrical Code specifies a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) for any outdoor electric outlets. The GFCI will shut off the power quicker than the blink of an eye should a short circuit occur. If your home doesn't have GFCI outlets, you should consider replacing them. In any case, always use three conductor cords and double-insulated tools.

Given a choice, most people would rather do almost anything than cut the grass at this time of the year. So why not make your yardwork as pleasant as possible? Do it electrically.

Use electric tools—safely

As with all tools, indoor or outdoor, safety comes first. Here are a few things to remember when taking electricity outdoors:

Never use electric equipment around water or on wet ground.

Use only extension cords rated for outdoor use. An indoor cord won't hold up to the abuse and is not weather resistant.

Make sure extension cords are sized for the equip-

ment you are using—16-3 minimum for hedge trimmers, drills and vacuums; 14-3 minimum for lawn mowers and chain saws; 12-3 for electric sanders, snowblowers and heaters.

Carefully inspect all cords for cracks in the insulation. Replace them immediately if damaged.

Be sure to read and follow all instruction booklets that come with the equipment you buy. Often, safety glasses and gloves are recommended by the manufacturer.

Satellite TV Programming

Corn Belt Electric Cooperative

Bloomington, Illinois • Phone 800-322-6541

Package 1

22 channels for \$17.95 per month Add Netlink for \$4.70/mo.

G1-12 Arts & Entertainment	G1-7 CNN News	G1-9 ESPN	G1-22 Discovery Channel
G1-11 Family Channel	G1-8 Headline News	G3-20 Lifetime (East)	F3-17 Lifetime (West)
G1-2 Nashville Network	G3-19 Nickelodeon (East)	G3-22 Nickelodeon (West)	F1-24 Prime Network (Sports)
G1-21 USA Network (East)	F3-10 USA Network (West)	G3-13 Weather Channel	G1-18 WTBS Atlanta
G1-15 WWOR-New York	S3-3 WSBK-Boston	S3-15 KTLA-Los Angeles	S3-5 KTVT-Dallas
G1-3 WGN-Chicago	S3-9 WPIX-New York	F2-4 WABC-ABC Network	F2-2 WBBM-CBS Network
F2-12 WXIA-NBC Network			

Package 2

14 channels for \$10.95 per month Add Netlink for \$4.70/mo. & Prime Time 24 for \$3.80/mo.

G1-7 CNN News	G1-22 Discovery Channel	G1-9 ESPN	G1-11 Family Channel
G1-8 Headline News	G3-20 Lifetime (East)	F3-17 Lifetime (West)	G3-19 Nickelodeon (East)
G3-22 Nickelodeon (West)	G1-2 Nashville Network	G1-21 USA Network (East)	F3-10 USA Network (West)
G3-13 Weather Channel	G1-18 WTBS Atlanta	S3-5 KTVT-Dallas	G1-3 WGN-Chicago
S3-9 WPIX-New York			

Package 3

10 channels for \$8.95 per month Add Netlink for \$4.00/mo. & Prime Time 24 for \$3.80/mo.

G1-12 Arts & Entertainment	G1-7 CNN News	G1-22 Discovery Channel	G1-9 ESPN
G1-11 Family Channel	G1-8 Headline News	G1-2 Nashville Network	G1-21 USA Network (East)
F3-10 USA Network (West)	G1-3 WGN-Chicago	G1-18 WTBS Atlanta	

Our premium channels

HBO East & West
G1-23 & F3-13
\$7.95 per month

Cinemax East & West
G1-19 & F3-23
\$7.95 per month

Disney East & West
G1-4 & G1-24
\$7.95 per month

HBO & Disney
All four channels
\$14.95 per month

Cinemax & Disney
All four channels
\$14.95 per month

HBO & Cinemax
All four channels
\$14.95 per month

Special!

HBO
Cinemax
Disney
All six channels
\$20.95 per month

Additional favorites

Satellite Sports Network – 13 channels of sports – \$7.95 per month
F1-5, F1-7, F1-10, F1-11, F1-17, F1-18, F1-22, F1-24, F4-6, F4-20, S2-19, S3-21, S3-23, W5-20

Prime Time 24 – \$3.95 per month for the three major networks
F2-2 CBS + F2-4 ABC + F2-12 NBC

Netlink – 5 channels from Denver for \$5.95 per month
F1-2, 4, 6, 12, 14

Skyline Silver – \$3.00 per month – Coast-to-Coast Superstations
G1-15 WWOR New York – S3-3 WSBK Boston – S3-15 KTLA Los Angeles

S3-19 Starion Premiere Cinema – \$6.95 per month

G-12 Arts & Entertainment – \$0.50 per month with Package 2 only

G1-18 WTBS Superstation Atlanta – \$1.75 per month

Big Rural TV news!

Really big! Exciting changes! Expanded choices! Additional channels! New, enlarged menus to choose from! We now offer three basic packages. Pick and choose to fit your television budget, viewing schedule and individual entertainment tastes.

Better prices? You bet! Compare Rural TV prices to those of our biggest competitors.

<u>Rural TV</u>	<u>Rural TV</u>	<u>HBO</u>	<u>Viacom</u>
Package 1 22 scrambled channels \$17.95/mo	Package 2 14 scrambled channels \$11.95/mo	basic 13 scrambled channels \$19.95 mo*	basic 16 scrambled channels \$14.95/mo*

*Cost without any premium channels

Rural TV. Still the best satellite television packages in the industry and still the lowest prices!

Call today for an instant hookup.

ENERGY SAVING TIPS

Do you have old, wooden, double-hung casement windows in your home that rattle, slip, or the window weight ropes are broken? Tired of propping up those old windows with sticks? Do you ever wish you didn't have to tug so much to open them? Are the top windows painted shut so that you can't open them to let the hot summer air near the ceiling escape?

Here's how you can do away with all the above aggravation. In very little time you can make your windows as good as new without the heavy expense of replacing them yourself or the heavier expense of

having them replaced. Window Fixer Window Paks from Quaker City Manufacturing Company are an answer to all the problems associated with those old, painted-shut, broken-weighted irritants.

Each Window Pak contains two replacement window channels and three lengths of durable weatherstrip that, when installed, provide a weathertight window that will open and close (both top and bottom sash) as easily in 20 years as the day they are installed. The Pak can also be used to rejuvenate irreplaceable vintage windows.

I've used the Window Fixer Window Pak and they are super. Easy to install, no special tools or skills are required and both the upper and the lower windows move up and down easily for great air circulation.

Here's how easy it is to install a Window Fixer Window Pak.

1 Remove stops or trim at top and sides of window. If there are chains or pulleys these must be cut. Your window will operate smoothly with your new Window Fixer channels without weights, pulleys, chains or cords. If your windows are in metal channels, remove the metal to make room for your new Window Fixer channels.



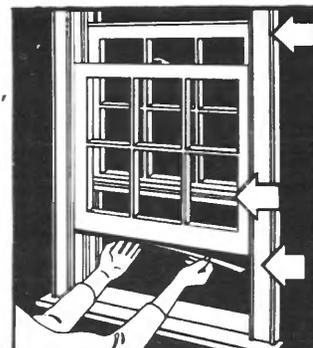
3 Nail the upper portion of the Window Fixer channels into place, then raise both sash and nail the lower section in place, replace stops or trim.



2 Secure the removed sash in your new Window Fixer channels. It is now a simple matter to pick up both sash and channels and place them into the window frame. You insert the bottom section first, until it butts the outside window stop, then ease the entire sash into the frame.



4 Apply self-adhesive horizontal weatherstripping to the top, center, and bottom of your window to insulate these problem window areas.



That's it! Now your windows are weather tight and will work like new. For an added benefit, insulate the spaces on either side of the window opening where the weights are. You'll be amazed at the comfort you'll gain and the fuel that will be saved next winter. The Window Paks are available from Maroa Lumber Co., Maroa, Johnson's Lumber and Hardware, Atlanta, and Menard's Cashway Lumber, Forsyth.

Nuclear power—a definite maybe

One result of the warming trend forecast by the prophets of the greenhouse effect may be an end to the cold war between the nuclear power industry and the environmental movement.

In a recent poll, the U.S. Council for Energy Awareness, the lobby group for nuclear power, found what it thinks is a growing acceptance from environmentalists. Some 58 percent of “green” consumers—those who both identify themselves as environmentalists and who have donated to or worked for environmental groups—say they think nuclear energy should be an important source of energy in the future. Even

more, 69 percent, predict that nuclear energy will be important.

The poll, conducted by Cambridge Reports, Inc., reported that 56 percent of the 224 environmentalists in the survey know that nuclear energy plants emit no gases that contribute to the greenhouse effect, compared to 45 percent of other Americans.

Harold B. Finger, president of the council, called the results the first evidence of a new “mainstream environmentalism that is more realistic and objective in its view of energy sources.”

Cooperative facts

Cooperative operations differ from each other in the way members use them: to purchase supplies, market commodities, or provide a wide range of services. Service cooperatives provide such diverse items as telephone, electricity, insurance, cable TV, financing, funerals, child care, health care or nursery care.

Cooperatives are like other corporate businesses in physical appearance, services performed, method of operations and taxes paid. They employ personnel with like training to perform similar jobs.

Safety quiz

If an overhead line is on or near the ground:

- call the cooperative to report it immediately.
- keep people away from the line even though it is not sparking
- it is not safe to walk under or near it.
- all of the above.

The answer is d. Call the power company and give the correct location, don't get near it and don't let anyone else near it either. Stand guard till the line crew arrives on the scene.

New members

Welcome to all new CBEC members who officially became a part of the cooperative family in May 1990!

A&P Partners, Nick Patel/Ansar Ansari
Michael G. Anderson
Stacey Anderson
Kimberly A. Ariola
ATI Medical Inc.
Jeffrey L. & Jayma Avery
Roger Baar
Michael F. & Bonnie K. Baker
Kevin D. Barrick
Leia Bartelmay
Tom Bauer
Gregory R. Bayles
Eric Bean
Ronald M. & Doris Benter
Tim L. Bertram
Charles W. & Jennifer L. Beutow
Glenn E., III and Terri J. Bledsoe
Terry R. & Sue Bolte
Bonnie L. Bottorff
Randy & Donna Braun
Robert J. & Diana L. Burke
Robert L. & Marsha L. Burnett
Mike & Barbara Burton
Josephine & Lee R. Callahan
Mark E. & Deborah S. Carter
Craig Covington & Kristi Kletz
Tim A. Davis
Richard S. & Teresa K. Degrave
John Dekeersgieter
James & Angela Gwen Dew
Larry & Tamara J. Ernst
Effiok B. & Wendy A. Etuk
Joseph W. & Neva M. Evans

Excel Pork
Garry L. Fulk
Steven Furlong & Laura Holman
Donald D. & Martha A. German
Joni L. Gibson
Timothy R. & Brenda J. Grafing
Andrea R. Graham
Judith A. Hall
Tom Hankins
Richard A. Hansen
Max Hardisty
James E. & Charlene F. Healea
Glen Heerde
Bruce A. & Lisa M. Henthorn
Dave Herzog & Angie Bolding
Charles & Ruth E. Hill
Rod & Ruth Hoff
Dwayne D. Hoffer
Alan Jackson
Wayne E. Johnson
Robert E., II & Joy E. Jones
Mark Kaiser
Michael L. & Sandy Kavanaugh
Robert W. & Patricia J. Kertz
David B. & Debra K. Koch
Steven J. & C. Renee Kowalski
William R. Kurfman
Joseph H. Lade
Helen Laidig
Edwin Lenhardt
Willis H. & Linda L. Lukehart
M. Lynn & Debrah E. Mason
Randy & Julie S. May

Bob & Donna McGregor
Douglas W. Melton & Althea I. Gordon
Charles E. Molnar
James L. Morris
Karen E. Morrison
Greg Moser
Michael Moss
Debbie R. Moulton
Nicholas Nayak MD & Anjulu Nayak MD
Frank Niepagen
Joseph J. & Katherine Nuccio
Martin B. & Linda L. D'Neil
Cheryl Parent & Larry Burmaster
Umesh & Jignasa Patel
Cary H. Peters
Marilyn R. Polen
Susan L. Pryor
Bonnie R. Ralston
Sheryl L. Rasmussen
Rex R. Reecer
Scott & Betsy Reel
Michelle Ann Rees
Mike & Brenda K. Rettke
Gerald A. Rich Jr. & Cheryl LR Reel
Scott & Nancy Ridgeway
Mark S. & Jo Lynn Robinson
James D. & Sheri L. Robinson
Jacob C. & Amy J. Schlipf
Michael R. Schneider
Susan Schultz & Amy Brantley
Tony Segobiano
Everett, Jr. & Janice G. Shue
Paul T. & Elizabeth A. Sizemore

Sloneker Tree Farm
Cassandra Smiley
Michael K. Smith
Joseph M. & Diana Sparks
Mark & Cindy Sprague
John F. & Christine C. Stabe
Oval D. & Dolores A. Stephens
Scott L. & Joyce A. Stephens
John W. & Debra Strange
Jimmie L. & Patsy Strauch
Michael & Mary C. Swarts
Thomas J. Tatham
Richard W. & Barbara H. Taylor
Laura R. Thompson & Leann C. Bowald
Walter Thurman
Roger W., Jr. & Shelley Torbert
Karl A. Vandiver
Roger & Lynne Vittitoe
David B. & Angela Funk Wall
Daniel P. Walsh
Diana Ware
Rodney M. Weinzierl & Kathy M. Wilson
Gregory M. Whitaker
David B. White
Troy J. Wilkey & Annette M. Defries
James R. & Pamela S. Williams
Julie M. Winters
Danny Wilson
Joe D. & Joann Woolums
Tina J. Wright
McKay Youngman
Cathy Zientara

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC., BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

An Equal Opportunity Employer (M/F/H)



**Surge
protection
now!**

After a thunderstorm, the saddest stories we hear from members are those related to the burning-up of electronic equipment. Lightning striking our distribution lines can introduce horrendous voltage surges in home wiring that literally "fry" super-sensitive, silicon-chipped electronics within appliances and home entertainment equipment.

Voltage surges (often called spikes or transients) can also be caused by animals or trees in contact with power lines, when poles are knocked down by automobiles or even by a neighbor using power equipment.

To combat these damaging voltage variations Corn Belt Electric Cooperative is now offering Surge Sentry. Surge Sentry is a surge protection system specifically designed to instantly sense and then to automatically dampen voltage disturbances from outside your home as well as those originating from within.

External protection is provided by a surge suppressor that we will install in your meter base. This device will dampen a voltage surge within a few billionths of a second. Now, that is protection. And, it is tough enough to do its job for years. Since many electronic equipment failures are caused by voltage variations from within the home, the basic Surge Sentry system also includes another suppressor to plug an individual piece of equipment into.

The basic Surge Sentry system sells for \$99 installed. We have been told that some major insurance companies now allow a discount for clients with surge protection on their homes or sensitive equipment. The reduction in the insurance premium just might be enough to pay for the Surge Sentry system.

So phone or come into the office to discuss a Surge Sentry system for your home.

At last, maximum, affordable surge protection for your delicate electronics!

Teenagers and usage

A new study by Consumers Power Company, a Michigan electric company, confirms (to no one's surprise) that homes with teenagers use lots of electricity—in fact, 54 percent more than quieter dwellings. That higher use stems from more than just leaving the lights on, though.

For one thing, the study found an average of one or two more persons living in homes with teenagers. But teen homes also are twice as likely to contain video-cassette players and heated waterbeds, and they exceed other households in food freezer, laundry machines,

and microwave ovens. And parents won't be surprised to find that teens produce at least three more loads of laundry a week.

"Teenagers, like baby boomers, are part of the generation accustomed to the dazzling variety of home appliances now on the market," said Paul Elbert, a Consumers Power Company vice president.

The study also revealed that in Consumer's territory only one in six homes contains a teenager. It just seems like more.

(from Rural Electrification/May 1990)



Satellite TV Programming



Corn Belt Electric Cooperative Bloomington, Illinois • Phone 800-322-6541

Satellite dish needed

\$10.00 Hook-up fee

Package 1

22 channels for \$17.95 per month Add Netlink for \$4.70/mo.

G1-12 Arts & Entertainment	G1-7 CNN News	G1-9 ESPN	G1-22 Discovery Channel
G1-11 Family Channel	G1-8 Headline News	G3-20 Lifetime (East)	F3-17 Lifetime (West)
G1-2 Nashville Network	G3-19 Nickelodeon (East)	G3-22 Nickelodeon (West)	F1-24 Prime Network (Sports)
G1-21 USA Network (East)	F3-10 USA Network (West)	G3-13 Weather Channel	G1-18 WTBS Atlanta
G1-15 WWOR-New York	S3-3 WSBK-Boston	S3-15 KTLA-Los Angeles	S3-5 KTVT-Dallas
G1-3 WGN-Chicago	S3-9 WPIX-New York	F2-4 WABC-ABC Network	F2-2 WBBM-CBS Network
F2-12 WXIA-NBC Network			

Package 2

14 channels for \$10.95 per month Add Netlink for \$4.70/mo. & Prime Time 24 for \$3.80/mo.

G1-7 CNN News	G1-22 Discovery Channel	G1-9 ESPN	G1-11 Family Channel
G1-8 Headline News	G3-20 Lifetime (East)	F3-17 Lifetime (West)	G3-19 Nickelodeon (East)
G3-22 Nickelodeon (West)	G1-2 Nashville Network	G1-21 USA Network (East)	F3-10 USA Network (West)
G3-13 Weather Channel	G1-18 WTBS Atlanta	S3-5 KTVT-Dallas	G1-3 WGN-Chicago
S3-9 WPIX-New York			

Package 3

10 channels for \$8.95 per month Add Netlink for \$4.00/mo. & Prime Time 24 for \$3.80/mo.

G1-12 Arts & Entertainment	G1-7 CNN News	G1-22 Discovery Channel	G1-9 ESPN
G1-11 Family Channel	G1-8 Headline News	G1-2 Nashville Network	G1-21 USA Network (East)
F3-10 USA Network (West)	G1-3 WGN-Chicago	G1-18 WTBS Atlanta	

Our premium channels

HBO East & West G1-23 & F3-13 \$7.95 per month	Cinemax East & West G1-19 & F3-23 \$7.95 per month	Disney East & West G1-4 & G1-24 \$7.95 per month
HBO & Disney All four channels \$14.95 per month	Cinemax & Disney All four channels \$14.95 per month	HBO & Cinemax All four channels \$14.95 per month

Special!

HBO
Cinemax
Disney
All six channels
\$20.95 per month

Additional favorites

Satellite Sports Network – 13 channels of sports – \$7.95 per month F1-5, F1-7, F1-10, F1-11, F1-17, F1-18, F1-22, F1-24, F4-6, F4-20, S2-19, S3-21, S3-23, W5-20	Skyline Silver – \$3.00 per month – Coast-to-Coast Superstations G1-15 WWOR New York – S3-3 WSBK Boston – S3-15 KTLA Los Angeles
Prime Time 24 – \$3.95 per month for the three major networks F2-2 CBS + F2-4 ABC + F2-12 NBC	S3-19 Starion Premiere Cinema – \$6.95 per month
Netlink – 5 channels from Denver for \$5.95 per month F1-2, 4, 6, 12, 14	G1-12 Arts & Entertainment – \$0.50 per month with Package 2 only
	G1-18 WTBS Superstation Atlanta – \$1.75 per month

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC., BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS CORN BELT ELECTRIC

Electricity a good buy?

If you've rented a videotape to watch on your new TV while eating a chicken-and-vegetable dinner, you should be one happy consumer, a new survey says. But paying to go to a movie or a ballgame likely makes you wince.

The Conference Board, after a nationwide survey of 7,000 families, found that consumers say they are getting their money's worth when they buy chicken, fruits and vegetables, television and other appliances, electricity and in renting videotapes.

Those surveyed, however, believe they are getting a relatively "poor" value when they pay for hospital care, lawyers' services, credit card charges, cable television and insurance—not to mention movies and sports events.

The Conference Board, a business-sponsored research group, asked families in its survey to rate the value received for 50 different products and services as "good," "average" or "poor."

"People tend to have a sound intuitive sense of what things should cost—particularly in the service sector," said Fabian Linden, executive director of the board's Consumer Research Center. "While they are not always right, they are more often right than wrong."

Poultry drew the most consumer acceptance. More than two out of five surveyed rated the money value as good; less than 8 percent labeled it poor. Also topping the list of favored items were meat, pet food, haircuts and fish.

Hospital charges, on the other hand, ranked dead last in overall acceptance; more than 61 percent of those surveyed rated them as a poor value. Consumer ire was also provoked by the cost of health and auto insurance, bank service charges, used cars and college tuition.

What does Dual Heat mean?

- Electric heat for 2.9 cents per kilowatt-hour!
- Up to \$600 rebate!
- Especially low heating costs!
- Total comfort!

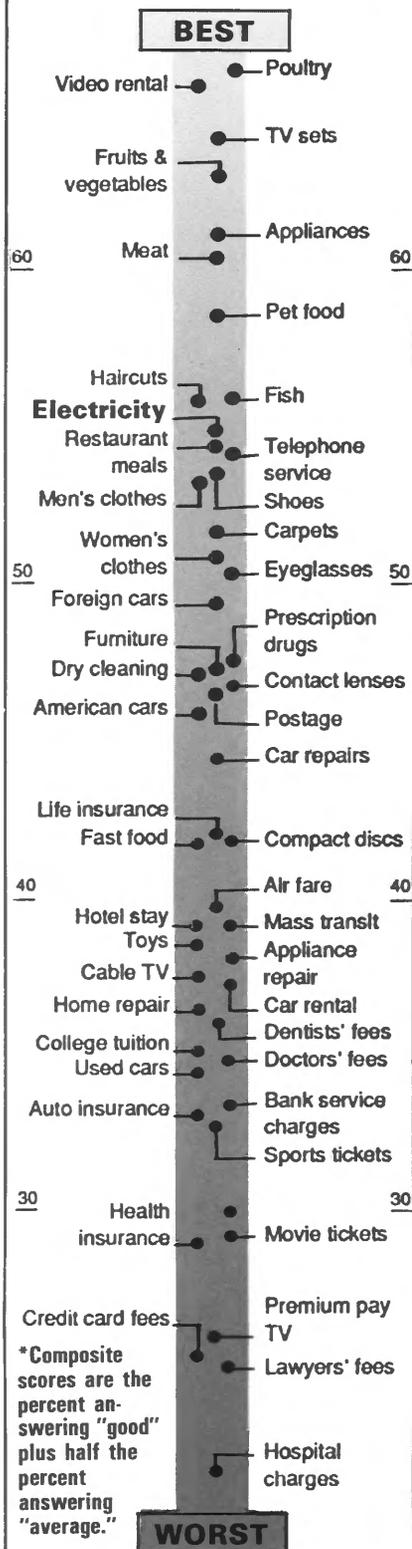
Save with Dual Heat

IT CAN'T GET ANY
BETTER THAN THIS!!



Is it good value?

Composite* rating of selected goods and services based on answers to the question, "Do you get good, fair or poor value for your money when you purchase this item?" Higher scores (shown higher on the chart) indicate better value. A score of 50 is neutral.



*Composite scores are the percent answering "good" plus half the percent answering "average."

Source: Conference Board

Is your crop dryer ready?

Don't wait till you start harvesting to find out if your crop dryer is going to operate properly. Take a few minutes now and run through the following checklist. It may save you hours or even days of harvest delay.

- Inspect all wiring and panels for worn insulation, loose connections and worn out circuit breakers. Also, check to be sure equipment grounding wires are properly connected and not broken.
- Make sure all guards, shields and overcurrent devices are properly installed and secured.
- Check for worn bearings, pulleys, gear boxes, belts, shafts, etc. Pay particular attention to excess play in motor bearings. Bad bearings can ruin a motor.
- Lubricate all equipment before you start it. If you

are not sure of where to lubricate or what type of lubricant to use, consult your equipment dealer.

- Test it. Run through a complete drying cycle to see that all timers and switches operate properly. Let the motors run for several minutes to heat and distribute the new lubricant. Start the dryer at least twice to be sure the starting capacitors perform properly.
- If you have added new or larger motors, it would be a good idea to check with the Engineering Department to make sure the electric service is adequate to handle the additional load.
- Don't forget to check over any fossil fuel-fired equipment used in conjunction with the dryer.

Office closing

The offices of Corn Belt Electric Cooperative will be closed Monday, September 3, in observance of Labor Day.

In the event of an electrical emergency, please phone:

1-800-322-6541

Safety quiz

You can tell if a downed electric line is energized or "hot" by:

- looking at it.
- listening for buzzing, arcing or sparking.
- checking nearby houses to see if they have power.
- none of the above.

The answer is d. Only a trained lineman can tell if a line is energized or not. A "hot" (energized) and a "dead" (de-energized) line look exactly the same.

New members

Welcome to all new CBEC members who officially became a part of the cooperative family in April 1990!

Ron Able
Michaal & Jennifer Auxier
Tina Bauer
Michael & Beverly Marie Beck
Jarome Betuka
Steven B. Beyer
Joseph J. Bolek
Doreen L. Bonnet
Stephen P. Brandon
Daniel & Shawn Browder
Vern & Evelyn H. Brown
Gerald F. & Joan M. Bryant
Wanda L. Carlisle
Patrick D. Carmody
Carol L. Carr
Colcon Industries Corporation
Charles M. Cornwell
Vicki L. Cox
Jay L. & Cynthia L. Cummins
Judy Dalton
Deborah S. Deerwester
David M. Dennis
Frank A. II & Sherilynn Doll
Jennifer S. Ebach
Staven J. Eickhorst
Joseph E. & Juanita F. Evans

Michael S. & Judy Ficek
Kerry & Lisa Fogarty
Lisa R. Foster
Michael B. Frakes
Fraadom Oil Co.
William K. Fry
Roger D. Gadberry, DBA Coach House Garage
Kenneth W. Jr. & Donna Sue Gibson
James E. & Bonnie E. Giesler
Stephen & Janet Guderjan
Ruth C. Hall
Robert H. Halverson
Frank G. & Sua C. Hautar
Jeffrey V. & Dabbia A. Haisar
Josef Hallebrandt
Joseph W. & Marilyn L. Himelick
Mark Hintzman
Robert J. Hoback
Teri J. Holloy
Edward A. Jr & Patricia K. Huffman
Troy R. & Tari L. Hutchinson
Pamela L. Hutchison
Larry & Janat Jordan
James M. Koluisto
Wm. & Judy Kummer

Steva & Elizabeth Lawson
Fraddia J. & Virginia L. Leach
Paul W. & Mary C. Lagga
Shari Logan
Billy J. & Mary L. Mathews
Larry L. & Sharon L. McKean
Howard W. Meyers
Tom Moberly
Larry J. Moore
George L. & Barbara J. Moreland
John Namoff
Ralph & Lynne Niameyer
James A. & Dorinda M. Nolting
Old Farm Lakes Property Owners Association
Mary Jo Oreilly
Michael G. Pace MD
Peter A. Papacak
Randal & Eilan A. Paul
Michaal B. Perkins
Harold S. & Kathy S. Phillips
Rick Raed
Robert A. & Mary B. Reyes
Timothy A. & Julie Ann Rink
Jhan S. Roberts
Raymond E. Russell

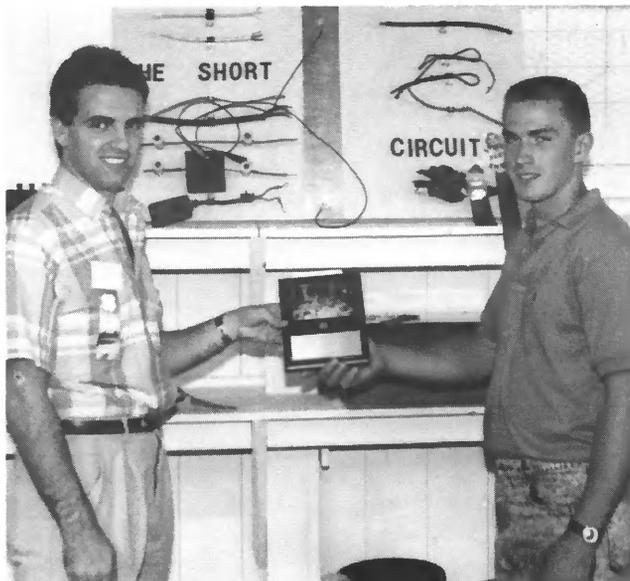
H. David & Carolyn H. Saal
Kris Schmidgall
Dean A. & Becky A. Saely
William G. Shepherd
David M. & Trudy M. Shomo
Steven M. & Katherina M. Sieraski
Anna L. Smith
Kirk E. & Jackie S. Smith
Bradley C. Smitheram
Natalie H. Smitheram
Frank A. & Lauria L. Soliday
Hideto & Yoshie Takeda
Gary A. & J. Kay Taylor
Tel-Star Cablevision Inc.
Richard J. & Kristal A. Thurman
Timothy D. Tidwell
Anthony R. & Elizabeth V. Twardowski
Spender Vatterrodt
Stanley D. Vinson
Stavan E. & Susan Walker
Auburn R. Wells
Richard D. & Mary Ellen Whitaker
Gary K. & Toni Jo Wilder
Roscoe W. York

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC., BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS CORN BELT ELECTRIC

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC., BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

An Equal Opportunity Employer (M/F/H)

4-H electricity competition



Left: Rick Polley (left) of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives congratulates Chris Grotbo as the winner for the third time of the Outstanding Electrical Exhibitor trophy. This year Chris entered a home-built laser and a security light reworked into a "Bug Zapper" of heroic proportions. Right: Mike Beck (left) of Illinois Power Co. awards the Outstanding Electrical Exhibit plaque to Michael Graf in front of his project—The Short Circuit.

Every year the same comments are heard from the judges of the McLean County 4-H electric project competition: "So many excellent exhibits," "Such neat work," "Better than many I have judged at the state fair."

This makes the work of the judges that much more difficult because they can choose only seven projects from the hundreds on display to advance to the state level of competition.

This year Todd Crutcher, Jeff Dodge, Bryan Kidd, Grant Armstrong, Michael Graf and Joe Cleary represented the county at the Illinois State Fair. They did

very well. All six earned the Award of Excellence. Dodge, Armstrong, Graf and Cleary were awarded superior ribbons. Chris Grotbo, who won his third McLean County Outstanding Electrical Exhibitor trophy, elected to work on projects to enter in national competition rather than compete at the State Fair.

Congratulations to you all.

And a great hoorah for all county 4-H'ers who apply their brains and talents; for their parents who supply the encouragement; and for club leaders who lend their time and patience. Thank you. It's not easy to make the best better; but you do it—year after year.

Safety quiz

If someone is injured and is near a downed (fallen) electric line:

- begin CPR at once.
- move the victim carefully out of the area, then treat the injuries
- wait for help to arrive.

The answer is b. Evaluate the situation very carefully! Your life is at stake too. If the victim must have care but is close to the downed lines, then carefully move them out of the area without touching an electric line yourself. If the victim is touching the line, do not go near him. Injury to yourself is sure to result. In this case, the correct answer would be (c). Wait for help to arrive. A phone call to the police or a rescue service is the best advice. Either agency will notify the electric utility.

Satellite TV Programming

Corn Belt Electric Cooperative • Bloomington, Illinois • Phone 800-322-6541

Satellite dish needed

\$10.00 Hook-up fee

Package 1

22 channels for \$17.95 per month Add Netlink for \$4.70/mo.

G1-12 Arts & Entertainment	G1-7 CNN News	G1-9 ESPN	G1-22 Discovery Channel
G1-11 Family Channel	G1-8 Headline News	G3-20 Lifetime (East)	F3-17 Lifetime (West)
G1-2 Nashville Network	G3-19 Nickelodeon (East)	G3-22 Nickelodeon (West)	F1-24 Prime Network (Sports)
G1-21 USA Network (East)	F3-10 USA Network (West)	G3-13 Weather Channel	G1-18 WTBS Atlanta
G1-15 WWDR-New York	S3-3 WSBK-Boston	S3-15 KTLA-Los Angeles	S3-5 KTVT-Dallas
G1-3 WGN-Chicago	S3-9 WPIX-New York	F2-4 WABC-ABC Network	F2-2 WBBM-CBS Network
F2-12 WXIA-NBC Network			

Package 2

14 channels for \$10.95 per month Add Netlink for \$4.70/mo. & Prime Time 24 for \$3.80/mo.

G1-7 CNN News	G1-22 Discovery Channel	G1-9 ESPN	G1-11 Family Channel
G1-8 Headline News	G3-20 Lifetime (East)	F3-17 Lifetime (West)	G3-19 Nickelodeon (East)
G3-22 Nickelodeon (West)	G1-2 Nashville Network	G1-21 USA Network (East)	F3-10 USA Network (West)
G3-13 Weather Channel	G1-18 WTBS Atlanta	S3-5 KTVT-Dallas	G1-3 WGN-Chicago
S3-9 WPIX-New York			

Package 3

10 channels for \$8.95 per month Add Netlink for \$4.00/mo. & Prime Time 24 for \$3.80/mo.

G1-12 Arts & Entertainment	G1-7 CNN News	G1-22 Discovery Channel	G1-9 ESPN
G1-11 Family Channel	G1-8 Headline News	G1-2 Nashville Network	G1-21 USA Network (East)
F3-10 USA Network (West)	G1-3 WGN-Chicago	G1-18 WTBS Atlanta	

Our premium channels

HBD East & West G1-23 & F3-13 \$7.95 per month	Cinemax East & West G1-19 & F3-23 \$7.95 per month	Disney East & West G1-4 & G1-24 \$7.95 per month
HBO & Disney All four channels \$14.95 per month	Cinemax & Disney All four channels \$14.95 per month	HBO & Cinemax All four channels \$14.95 per month

Special!

HBD
Cinemax
Disney
All six channels
\$20.95 per month

Additional favorites

Satellite Sports Network — 13 channels of sports — \$7.95 per month F1-5, F1-7, F1-10, F1-11, F1-17, F1-18, F1-22, F1-24, F4-6, F4-20, S2-19, S3-21, S3-23, W5-20	Skyline Silver — \$3.00 per month — Coast-to-Coast Superstations G1-15 WWOR New York — S3-3 WSBK Boston — S3-15 KTLA Los Angeles
Prime Time 24 — \$3.95 per month for the three major networks F2-2 CBS + F2-4 ABC + F2-12 NBC	S3-19 Starion Premiere Cinema — \$6.95 per month
Netlink — 5 channels from Denver for \$5.95 per month F1-2, 4, 6, 12, 14	G1-12 Arts & Entertainment — \$0.50 per month with Package 2 only
	G1-18 WTBS Superstation Atlanta — \$1.75 per month

Billings, payments, deposits, etc.

From time to time we have discussions with members concerning our policies on billings, payments and deposits. We want all member-owners of the cooperative to understand these policies.

As all businesses must, we have to insist on prompt payment for our product. If someone doesn't pay their monthly bill, that amount must then be shared by all the other member-owners. Not fair at all.

The billing routine is simple and straightforward. All meters are read at about the end of each month. The readings are entered into the Central Area Data Processing computer, the bills are calculated (net amount and gross amount), printed and sent to our office for processing and mailing. Each member should receive the bill about the 15th of the month.

All payments are due no later than the 5th of the following month. Any member who pays their bill by that date receives a 5 percent discount (net amount). Those who pay after the 5th must pay the gross amount.

On the sixth, a courtesy notice is mailed to those members who have not yet paid their bill. If not paid by the 13th a second reminder is mailed with payment requested within seven days.

On about the 20th, notice of possible disconnection is given by telephone or mail. If payment or an arrangement for payment is not made by the 27th, electric service will be subject to disconnection. If service is

disconnected, there is a \$20 reconnection charge. After working hours the reconnection fee is \$70.

The cooperative may request a deposit from past, present and future members if:

- A. They cannot provide a satisfactory credit reference from their prior electric utility.
- B. Past due service was not paid for at the same or another cooperative location.
- C. The wire, meter or other service equipment have been tampered with to the member's benefit.

The cooperative will automatically refund the deposit (with interest) after 12 months:

- A. if the service has not been disconnected for non-payment during the 12 months
- B. if the member has paid late no more than four times during the 12 months
- C. if the wires, meter or other service equipment have not been tampered with during the time the deposit is held.

A deposit shall be applied to the final bill after the service has been disconnected for 30 days or more.

Those are the cooperative's basic policies on billings, payments and deposits. This is your corporation. You, as a member-owner, should insist that these rules be enforced.

October is Cooperative Month

Resolve now to be more cooperative with your cooperative next month and in the future.

1. Know your map location number
2. Pay your bill before the 5th of every month
3. Let your congresspersons know that they should support the Rural Electrification Administration (REA)
4. Purchase a Surge Sentry whole house surge suppressor to protect the delicate electronics in your appliances and entertainment equipment
5. Have Corn Belt Electric install a timing device on your electric water heater and receive up to \$100 credit per year



COOPERATIVES
BUILDING
YOUR COMMUNITY

6. Have a BILL-BUSTER!! installed on your central air conditioner and receive \$50 credit
7. Call the office for underground cable location at least two working days before you are going to dig
8. Subscribe to Rural TV for your satellite television programming needs

Rural TV equipment dealers

For equipment to receive Rural TV, contact these dealers:

Griffin Satellites
Carlock
Ph. 309-376-3471

Rite Satellites
Tremont
Ph. 309-925-2321

Fuchs Communication
Springfield
Ph. 217-744-1498

Twin City Satellites
Shirley
Ph. 309-829-8986

Anderson Satellites
Norris
Ph. 309-647-4259

Tony's Satellite Service
Bloomington
Ph. 309-828-3306

Home-Link/
P&M Communications
Decatur
Ph. 217-877-2235

McKinsey's TV
Chenoa
Ph. 815-945-5851

Central Illinois Satellite
Atlanta
Ph. 217-648-2256

Pendleton Home
Entertainment
Astoria
Ph. 309-759-4463

Abbe Satellite Systems
Abingdon
Ph. 309-462-2204



CBEC employees, from left, Jim Coan, Jim Buggar and Lyle Hinshaw finishing the hook-up prior to installing the enclosure around the transformer.

CBEC was there

Did you go to the Women's World Softball Championship Tournament?

We did. But we weren't playing games. Your cooperative serves Maxwell Park, where the tournament was held. The organizers requested a temporary underground service be installed for the food service and vendor area.

Despite frequent rain storms, the 7200-volt line was buried to the site chosen for the service and a pad was

poured. On the Wednesday before the tourney began our crew was finally able to set and hook-up the transformer working under a canvas shelter temporarily rigged to shield them from the rain.

The electrical contractor was then able to install the services to the individual vendor stall sites fully confident that refreshments would be available when the fans arrived and the games began.

New members

Welcome to all new CBEC members who officially became a part of the cooperative family in May 1990!

Laurie D. Abel
 Bruce J. Alvey
 Dale Ames
 William H. & Leslie Lynn Arnold
 Shanen T. Ashlock
 Ronald D. & Peggy L. Atkins
 Douglas W. Baird
 Ronald M. Baker
 Charles E. Batty
 Dale Baughman
 Thomas & Joan Marie Bernhardt
 Staci Blakney
 Noel R. & Betsy Boatz
 Paul A. Brouillet
 Brian A. Cash
 Hal T. & Anita L. Chiodo
 Jerry M. Christensen
 Michael T. & Susan V. Crist
 Keith M. & Ann M. Crutchley
 James E. & Marilyn M. Daniels
 Kenneth Dale & Vicki G. Davidson
 Myrl Wayne & Ruth Ann Decker
 Eugene W. & Marilyn S. Depue

Broan L. & Barbara Detweiler
 Karen Deutsch
 Mary Donaldson
 Mary Jo Douglass
 Kurt Eastman
 Graham E. & Regina L. Eich
 Allen & Meleah J. Flynn
 Henry T. & Sherlene C. Frazier
 Mark Gregory
 Diane Guse
 Teresa L. Heinrich
 Rex W. & Daphne K. Heiny
 Robert & Dolores Hemp
 Roger E. & Dorothy S. Herberts
 Robert E. Hill & Christine E. Latta
 Rebecca Sue Hilton
 Darren Honegger
 Aaron D. & Barbara B. Huffman
 C. Cory Hume
 Donald B. Jones
 Jeffrey & Heather Jones
 Sandra K. Kastor
 Glenda Koister

Darryl W. Klehm
 Terry G. & Sandra K. Koehler
 Matthew J. & Elizabeth J. Kopff
 Bruce & Mary Krahn
 C.J. & Vicki Kupec
 David J. Kutil
 Patrick J. Martin
 Lawrence J. & Deanne M. McAuliffe
 James W. & Nancy J. McCriskin
 Brian & Susan McDonald
 Jack Means
 Kent & Karen Meister
 Gilbert L. & Linda A. Mills
 Michael M. & Dana Mounce
 William D. & Theresa S. Mount
 Danny Murray
 Roxanne Nelson
 Dennis L. & Marla E. Newman
 Earl E. Nolley
 Don P. Northup
 Martha Dhlendorf
 Odeen R. & Doris J. Olson
 Harish Patel

Janice K. Peasley
 Sam & Cynthia H. Pittmon
 Shan R. Pollitt & Lucy A. Gardner
 Kim Richardson
 James E. & Angie Reithmaier
 Jerome Rinkenberger
 Chris & Cheryl Ann Russell
 John Sayer
 R.D. & D.L. Schar
 James & Brenda Schwartz
 Harry D. & Suzanne Shaw
 Daniel J. & Becky B. Shea
 R.D. Sine
 Donny & Tammy Sublon
 John V. Swanson
 Arthur H., Jr. & Cynthia J. Wall
 James & Nancee Weiss
 John E. Weyker
 Varunee Yaemjiak
 Laverna A. Zupansic
 Thomas M. Zwick

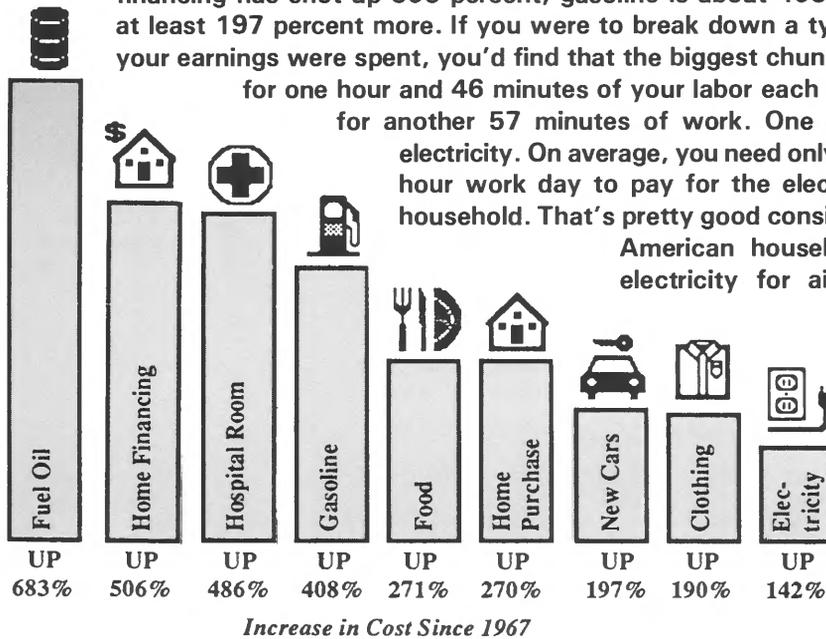
CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC., BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS CORN BELT ELECTRIC

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC., BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

An Equal Opportunity Employer (M/F/H)

Electricity costs compared to other consumer goods

Everyone knows that things cost more today than before and it's commonly thought that electricity is among the culprits. The fact is, however, electricity has remained a bargain. Since 1967 home financing has shot up 506 percent; gasoline is about 408 percent higher and new cars cost at least 197 percent more. If you were to break down a typical eight-hour workday into how your earnings were spent, you'd find that the biggest chunk goes to federal taxes, accounting for one hour and 46 minutes of your labor each day. State and local taxes account for another 57 minutes of work. One of the smallest bites comes from electricity. On average, you need only work 15 minutes out of each eight-hour work day to pay for the electricity you used in operating your household. That's pretty good considering that since 1967 the average American household has *doubled* its demand for electricity for air conditioning, heating, cooking, entertainment and so on. Because electricity is invisible, we simply never notice all the work it's doing every second, every day, all year long.



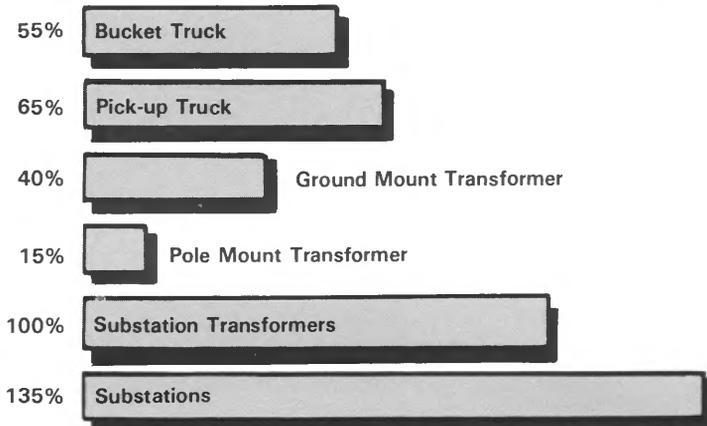
(from Panola-Harrison Electric's (Texas) "Co-op News")

The chart above was published in the May edition of Rural Electric News. We are reprinting it to remind our readers that the cost of electricity has not risen as much nor as rapidly as most everything else has that we consider essential

goods and services.

For the general knowledge of you, the owners of the co-op, we present the following chart as an indication of the increases in our costs of doing business just since 1981.

Increase since 1981



Of course, those countless nut and bolt items that the co-op uses in its day-to-day operations have also risen. Some by greater or lesser amounts.

Curiously, the prices for poles and wire (overhead and underground) fluctuate so wildly that at times they are cheaper than they were in '82; other times much higher.

This is your corporation. You should want to know how the money you pay each month is used. The dollars spent on operating and maintaining the system represent the second largest expense after the cost to generate electricity.



Satellite TV Programming



Corn Belt Electric Cooperative • Bloomington, Illinois • Phone 800-322-6541

Satellite dish needed

\$10.00 Hook-up fee

Package 1

22 channels for \$17.95 per month Add Netlink for \$4.70/mo.

G1-12 Arts & Entertainment	G1-7 CNN News	G1-9 ESPN	G1-22 Discovery Channel
G1-11 Family Channel	G1-8 Headline News	G3-20 Lifetime (East)	F3-17 Lifetime (West)
G1-2 Nashville Network	G3-19 Nickelodeon (East)	G3-22 Nickelodeon (West)	F1-24 Prime Network (Sports)
G1-21 USA Network (East)	F3-10 USA Network (West)	G3-13 Weather Channel	G1-18 WTBS Atlanta
G1-15 WWOR-New York	S3-3 WSBK-Boston	S3-15 KTLA-Los Angeles	S3-5 KTVT-Dallas
G1-3 WGN-Chicago	S3-9 WPIX-New York	F2-4 WABC-ABC Network	F2-2 WBBM-CBS Network
F2-12 WXIA-NBC Network			

Package 2

14 channels for \$10.95 per month Add Netlink for \$4.70/mo. & Prime Time 24 for \$3.80/mo.

G1-7 CNN News	G1-22 Discovery Channel	G1-9 ESPN	G1-11 Family Channel
G1-8 Headline News	G3-20 Lifetime (East)	F3-17 Lifetime (West)	G3-19 Nickelodeon (East)
G3-22 Nickelodeon (West)	G1-2 Nashville Network	G1-21 USA Network (East)	F3-10 USA Network (West)
G3-13 Weather Channel	G1-18 WTBS Atlanta	S3-5 KTVT-Dallas	G1-3 WGN-Chicago
S3-9 WPIX-New York			

Package 3

10 channels for \$8.95 per month Add Netlink for \$4.00/mo. & Prime Time 24 for \$3.80/mo.

G1-12 Arts & Entertainment	G1-7 CNN News	G1-22 Discovery Channel	G1-9 ESPN
G1-11 Family Channel	G1-8 Headline News	G1-2 Nashville Network	G1-21 USA Network (East)
F3-10 USA Network (West)	G1-3 WGN-Chicago	G1-18 WTBS Atlanta	

Our premium channels

HBO East & West G1-23 & F3-13 \$7.95 per month	Cinemax East & West G1-19 & F3-23 \$7.95 per month	Disney East & West G1-4 & G1-24 \$7.95 per month
HBO & Disney All four channels \$14.95 per month	Cinemax & Disney All four channels \$14.95 per month	HBO & Cinemax All four channels \$14.95 per month

Special!

HBO
Cinemax
Disney
All six channels
\$20.95 per month

Additional favorites

Satellite Sports Network – 13 channels of sports – \$7.95 per month
F1-5, F1-7, F1-10, F1-11, F1-17, F1-18, F1-22, F1-24, F4-6, F4-20, S2-19, S3-21, S3-23, W5-20

Prime Time 24 – \$3.95 per month for the three major networks
F2-2 CBS + F2-4 ABC + F2-12 NBC

Netlink – 5 channels from Denver for \$5.95 per month
F1-2, 4, 6, 12, 14

Skyline Silver – \$3.00 per month – Coast-to-Coast Superstations
G1-15 WWOR New York – S3-3 WSBK Boston – S3-15 KTLA Los Angeles

S3-19 Starion Premiere Cinema – \$6.95 per month

G1-12 Arts & Entertainment – \$0.50 per month with Package 2 only

G1-18 WTBS Superstation Atlanta – \$1.75 per month

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC.. BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS CORN BELT ELECTRIC

Danger in microwaving

Last year, it was Alar! This year, the authorities are wrapped up in a brewing controversy over the cancer-causing potential of the containers and packages we microwave with. Special "browning" packages, plastic cling-wraps, and even "microwave-safe" cookware—all could be releasing nasty chemicals into our food, according to the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI).

Among the worst offenders are the "heat susceptors," which are thin strips or disks of metallized plastic that are built into packages to brown microwave pizzas, waffles, french fries, and breaded fish, and to reduce the number of unpoppered kernels of microwave popcorn. When the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) heated corn oil in susceptor packages in 1988, every test package released synthetic chemicals into the oil. What's more, the high temperatures reached by the susceptors caused other parts of the package to break down, allowing a witch's brew of chemicals from package adhesives to migrate into food.

Plastic wraps also appear to be problematic. A British government study showed that DEHA, an additive used to make most wraps more flexible, migrates into fatty foods not only during microwave cooking, but also at

room temperature and in the refrigerator.

There is some question, too, about dual-ovenable trays that many frozen or shelf-stable entrees now come in. These trays, marked for use in both microwave and regular ovens, appear safe for use in the microwave. However, tests by the FDA's Indirect Additives Lab show that when used in conventional ovens, they release chemicals equal to those released by heat-susceptor packages in the microwave.

Because the FDA doesn't regulate cling wraps or containers used for cooking and eating in the home, there's no guarantee that the words "microwave-safe" mean anything, says the CSPI.

So, while we're waiting for the Food and Drug Administration to settle this controversy, the CSPI suggests that you:

- Avoid heat-susceptor packaging
- Avoid microwaving with plastic containers—whether called "microwaveable" or not
- Use glass covers instead of cling wraps in microwave cooking
- Transfer food from dual-ovenables to glass cookware when heating in conventional ovens!

from Living In South Carolina

Take a little time—use some common sense

If you're planning to cut down a tree or trim dead branches, take a little time to make sure there are no power lines nearby.

If the tree or a branch is touching a power line, call us. Wood can be a conductor of electricity so please don't try to remove the tree yourself. Our experienced personnel know exactly what to do.

Take a moment to assess the situation; use your common sense!

Thanksgiving holiday

The offices of Corn Belt Electric Cooperative will be closed Thursday and Friday, November 22 and 23.

In the event of an electrical emergency, please phone 1-800-322-6541.

Have a Happy Holiday.

Rural TV equipment dealers

For equipment to receive Rural TV, contact these dealers:

Griffin Satellites
Carlock
Ph. 309-376-3471

Rite Satellites
Tremont
Ph. 309-925-2321

Fuchs Communication
Springfield
Ph. 217-744-1498

Twin City Satellites
Shirley
Ph. 309-829-8986

Anderson Satellites
Norris
Ph. 309-647-4259

Tony's Satellite Service
Bloomington
Ph. 309-828-3306

Home-Link/
P&M Communications
Decatur
Ph. 217-877-2235

McKinsey's TV
Chenoa
Ph. 815-945-5851

Central Illinois Satellite
Atlanta
Ph. 217-648-2256

Pendleton Home
Entertainment
Astoria
Ph. 309-759-4463

Abbe Satellite Systems
Abingdon
Ph. 309-462-2204

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC., BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS CORN BELT ELECTRIC

Here is an inexpensive, easy-to-do method of discovering air leaks around doors, windows, electric outlets and any number of openings in the outside walls and the ceiling of your home that allow cold winter air to infiltrate. All it takes is a box fan and a stick of incense. Here's the procedure:

1. Tightly close all windows, outside doors and dampers. Tape over exhaust fans and turn off the heating/cooling system.

2. Set a large fan (a box fan will do) in a centrally located window. Position it to blow out of the house. Use plastic sheets and duct tape to seal off the rest of this window area.

3. Turn the fan on to begin "depressurizing" the building. The rapid exit of air will make any incoming drafts stronger—and easier to find.

4. Beginning with the outside walls of each room, pass a burning incense stick slowly along the edges of windows, doors, baseboards, ceiling moldings, light fixtures, electric outlets, vents, dampers, pipe or wire entrances, attic doors, doors and any corners or seams where two surfaces come together.

5. Ask a friend to take notes while you look for blowing smoke. Where smoke from the incense stick simply hangs in the air, no leaks exist. But if smoke blows to one side or another you have a leak.

6. Do something about it! Weatherizing your house may involve storm windows, more insulation, etc. Or it may be as simple and inexpensive as caulking around outside window and door openings, installing the little pads under electric outlet covers or replacing the weatherstripping around outside doors and windows.

New members

Welcome to all new CBEC members who officially became a part of the cooperative family in June 1990!

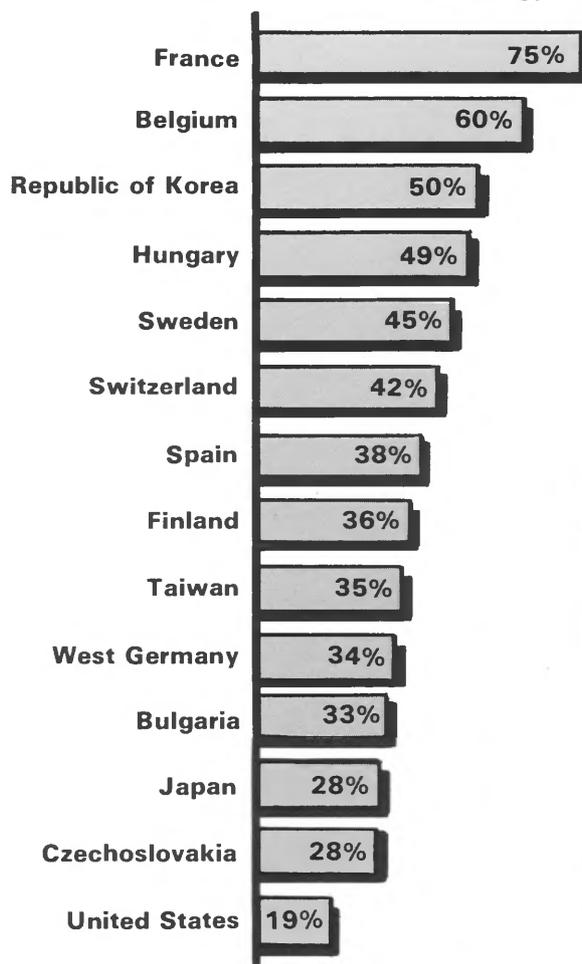
David Adams
 Floyd R. Jr., & Angela Adams
 Greg A. & Virginia L. Adams
 Teodora D. & Jerry T. Amoloza
 Maxie I. Arbogast
 Marty W. Bain
 Dennis W. & Anna M. Barron
 Keith & Dawn Baty
 Bauman Family Trust,
 Richard A. Norton, Trustee
 Kathy Berberich
 Michael A. & Susan E. Blakely
 Nicolette L. Blicken
 Lloyd V. Brabb
 Dawn Brady
 Robert E. Bridges &
 Mary V. Horvath-Bridges
 David W. & Jane M. Butts
 Philip L. Carr
 Richard D. & Denise E. Castillo
 Jacqueline R. Causey
 Janet B. Chaddick
 Tracy J. Clifton
 Jennifer Cochran
 Jerry & Christie Cottrell
 Victoria Louise Cox & Kerrie K. Heiser
 Roy D. Crutcher
 Dorothy & Eschol Curl Jr.
 Merlin & Jeanne Dorrell
 Scott E. & Tari J. Evans
 Chares B. Farmer
 Jeffrey M. & Cynthia J. Findley
 First Site LTD
 Gail & Nancy Fisher
 William H. Flick
 Stewart Fox
 Jeffrey A. Fuller & Amy Barling
 Donald R. & Ruth C. Gordon
 Arnold Greathouse
 Kathy O. & Charles W. Guthrie Jr.
 Michael & Amy Haerr
 Craig D. Hamilton
 Ida L. Hammer & Ada L. Uphoff
 Faye & J.C. Hazelbaker II
 Carl H. Helwig
 Debra D. Hilton
 Dana Lee & Brenda L. Hite
 Samuel E. & Lucinda S. Hohulin
 Hundman Lumber Mart
 Pete & Theresa Hupke

Donna Iseninger
 Richard K. Jacobs
 Douglas E. Jean
 Denise L. Jenkins
 Lisa D. Kamp
 Kerry P. Karcz
 Scott Kennedy
 Samuel S. & Jennie K. Kramer
 Henrietta Lauritson
 Jan M. Lawrence
 Michael H. Link
 Todd Little
 Jay A. & Crystal L. Loete
 Matt Luther
 Carlos & Donna Maldonado
 Jennifer L. Mead
 Martin Merrell
 David M. & Kimberly K. Moore
 Jodi Moyer
 L.T. & Karen A. Mueller
 Edward J. Murphy
 David & Melinda Nybakke
 Lynn M. Parker
 Robert D. Peterson
 Christopher E. Quam
 Linda Reeves
 Darrell D. & Suzann M. Reid
 James R. & Kim Kelly Riley
 R. Larry & Margaret A. Roberts
 Jeffrey F. Roop
 Jim Schell
 Thomas L. & Hillary Lynn Schmitt
 Steve & Vicki Scott
 Reginald L. & Kaye Seidner
 Warren & Michelle Slocum
 Jeffrey C. & Kristi M.J. Smith
 Michele L. Smith
 Alan & Angie Stone
 Greg W. Sullivan
 Larry & Lana Thayer
 Mark Eric & Rebecca F. Thomas
 Times Past Inn
 Sarah E. Toohill
 John T. & Sally A. Wannemacher
 Scott S. & Kelly Renee Webster
 Philip A. Weihmeier
 Derrick K. & Pam White
 Rory Allen White
 Mark L. Williamson

Nuclear energy around the world

Countries with highest reliance on nuclear energy

(Percent of electricity from nuclear energy)



Source: U.S. Council for Energy Awareness

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC., BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

An Equal Opportunity Employer (M/F/H)



The disturbed stones of the floor of the substation indicate the path of the ground pad the sneak thieves stole. Maintenance foreman Don Golden surveys the damage.



Maintenance foreman Lyle Hinshaw points to the cut end of one ground wire where it was severed.

Goodfield substation vandalized

Sometime in the early morning hours of a chilly, rainy October 9th, sneak thieves crept furtively into the substation near Goodfield to steal copper wire and crudely interrupted service to over 700 members in an 80-square-mile area of our service territory.

Their theft could not have been a profitable one. The results of their clumsy labor would total no more than \$120. And, with a great deal of luck, they avoided serious injury if not electrocution.

The damage they caused, however, resulted in incalculable costs to the affected members and your cooperative—much more than just the cost of repairing the damage.

The low voltage situation caused by their bungling burglary can be damaging to motors in such diverse applications as life-support equipment to sump pumps. If every member had followed our often-stated advice to disconnect motor-driven equipment during a low voltage period, the best we could have hoped for would have been a few colds in some very chilly homes.

Add to the motor damage and sickness: the late arisings from the lack of alarm clocks; the risk of accident as members and their children rushed to their daily destinations; the suffering of the bedridden from a lack of warmth; the risk of financial loss to owners of confinement livestock operations; and the general confusion that can reign in households these days without a proper supply of electricity.

To prevent this kind of thing from happening, we urge members to keep a sharp eye out for trespassers in our substations or persons damaging any equipment belonging to the cooperative. Please, if you see anyone committing either crime, phone the county sheriff's office to report it or call Corn Belt Electric Cooperative at 800-322-6541 day or night. We will seek prosecution to the fullest extent of the law.

Remember, if someone is in our substation and there is no red truck in the drive and the gate is not open, they are trespassing and risking injury. Report it. It is your property, too!

Satellite TV Programming

Corn Belt Electric Cooperative • Bloomington, Illinois • Phone 800-322-6541

Satellite dish needed

\$10.00 Hook-up fee

Package 1

22 channels for \$17.95 per month Add Netlink for \$4.70/mo.

G1-12 Arts & Entertainment
G1-11 Family Channel
G1-2 Nashville Network
G1-21 USA Network (East)
G1-15 WWOR-New York
G1-3 WGN-Chicago
F2-12 WXIA-NBC Network

G1-7 CNN News
G1-8 Headline News
G3-19 Nickelodeon (East)
F3-10 USA Network (West)
S3-3 WSBK-Boston
S3-9 WPIX-New York

G1-9 ESPN
G3-20 Lifetime (East)
G3-22 Nickelodeon (West)
G3-13 Weather Channel
S3-15 KTLA-Los Angeles
F2-4 WABC-ABC Network

G1-22 Discovery Channel
F3-17 Lifetime (West)
F1-24 Prime Network (Sports)
G1-18 WTBS Atlanta
S3-5 KTVT-Dallas
F2-2 WBBM-CBS Network

Package 2

14 channels for \$10.95 per month Add Netlink for \$4.70/mo. & Prime Time 24 for \$3.80/mo.

G1-7 CNN News
G1-8 Headline News
G3-22 Nickelodeon (West)
G3-13 Weather Channel
S3-9 WPIX-New York

G1-22 Discovery Channel
G3-20 Lifetime (East)
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G1-9 ESPN
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G1-11 Family Channel
G3-19 Nickelodeon (East)
F3-10 USA Network (West)
G1-3 WGN-Chicago

Package 3

10 channels for \$8.95 per month Add Netlink for \$4.00/mo. & Prime Time 24 for \$3.80/mo.

G1-12 Arts & Entertainment
G1-11 Family Channel
F3-10 USA Network (West)

G1-7 CNN News
G1-8 Headline News
G1-3 WGN-Chicago

G1-22 Discovery Channel
G1-2 Nashville Network
G1-18 WTBS Atlanta

G1-9 ESPN
G1-21 USA Network (East)

Our premium channels

HBO East & West
G1-23 & F3-13
\$7.95 per month

HBO & Disney
All four channels
\$14.95 per month

Cinemax East & West
G1-19 & F3-23
\$7.95 per month

Cinemax & Disney
All four channels
\$14.95 per month

Disney East & West
G1-4 & G1-24
\$7.95 per month

HBO & Cinemax
All four channels
\$14.95 per month

Special!

HBO
Cinemax
Disney
All six channels
\$20.95 per month

Additional favorites

Satellite Sports Network — 13 channels of sports — \$7.95 per month
F1-5, F1-7, F1-10, F1-11, F1-17, F1-18, F1-22, F1-24, F4-6, F4-20, S2-19, S3-21, S3-23, W5-20

Prime Time 24 — \$3.95 per month for the three major networks
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Netlink — 5 channels from Denver for \$5.95 per month
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S3-19 Starion Premiere Cinema — \$6.95 per month

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G1-18 WTBS Superstation Atlanta — \$1.75 per month

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Rite Satellites
Tremont
Ph. 309-925-2321

Fuchs Communication
Springfield
Ph. 217-744-1498

Twin City Satellites
Shirley
Ph. 309-829-8986

Anderson Satellites
Norris
Ph. 309-647-4259

Tony's Satellite Service
Bloomington
Ph. 309-828-3306

Home-Link/
P&M Communications
Decatur
Ph. 217-877-2235

McKinsey's TV
Chenoa
Ph. 815-945-5851

Central Illinois Satellite
Atlanta
Ph. 217-648-2256

Pendleton Home
Entertainment
Astoria
Ph. 309-759-4463

Abbe Satellite Systems
Abingdon
Ph. 309-462-2204

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC., BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS CORN BELT ELECTRIC

Blinking clocks—the reason

Electric utilities from rural Florida to metropolitan Seattle are being besieged with questions and complaints from residential consumers about trouble with digital clocks. Interruptions in the power supply, even those lasting fractions of a second, will often upset or “crash” the electronic display in these clocks causing them to literally go on the blink.

In response to requests from utilities to do something about blinking digital clocks, the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) has been studying the problem since mid-1989. Their power electronics and controls staff people are working to understand the problem, develop solutions and relay helpful information on digital clocks to utilities, their customers and the manufacturers.

One of the key findings by the power electronics and controls staff is that momentary power interruptions, more than any other electrical disturbance, cause digital clocks to blink. Phenomena such as surges and sags in voltage, long-term undervoltage or interference from the operation of other kinds of equipment nearby are generally not the culprits.

Momentary power interruptions—usually lasting less than 30 seconds and often less than a single second—are a result of utilities’ automatic switching operations performed to avoid serious long-term outages from natural events such as lightning strikes, tree limbs touching power lines, high winds blowing lines together and even human activities involving kites to cars.

Let’s look at a momentary power interruption. A building wind stirs tree limbs into motion until, at last, one of them briefly brushes a high-voltage line feeding a neighborhood of rural residences. This brief touching of limb and line creates a short circuit that is instantly detected by sensitive relays. They open circuit breakers to stop the flow of electricity. This allows the limb to blow away from the line. The relay then recloses the circuit breakers to restore the line to service. The whole process may take less than a second—you may not even notice the flicker—but that may be long enough to crash the displays of digital clocks.

From a utility standpoint, the system is operating as it should and always has. It is working automatically to prevent outages of long duration. These momentary interruptions generally have no major adverse consequences on any equipment or operations, except they upset digital clock displays and aggravate consumers all over the nation and the world.

If the utilities have all handled momentary interruptions so skillfully and so handily for so many years, why then are we suddenly confronted with this seemingly unsolvable puzzle?

Well, the study group at EPRI has discovered that older clocks, manufactured in the 1970’s, contained

temporary energy storage devices called capacitors in their internal electric wiring that were larger than those in clocks of more recent manufacture. These larger capacitors provided a “ridethrough” time of 2 to 10 seconds—enough to tolerate most momentary interruptions. Newer clocks, perhaps to shave production costs, generally have much smaller capacitors that provide little or no ridethrough time.

And there you have it. Electric service is as dependable as it has always been. But with today’s more sensitive micro-electronics, the perception of consumers is that the electric service is deteriorating. That just isn’t the case.

There are some bright spots, however, in the blinking clock picture. EPRI has found that almost all clocks manufactured since the mid-1980’s have a battery ridethrough capability to keep them going even during an extended outage. Unfortunately, most consumers either are not aware that a battery can be installed or they just plain forget to install one. If you are contemplating buying a new digital clock or appliance, insist that it have this battery backup.

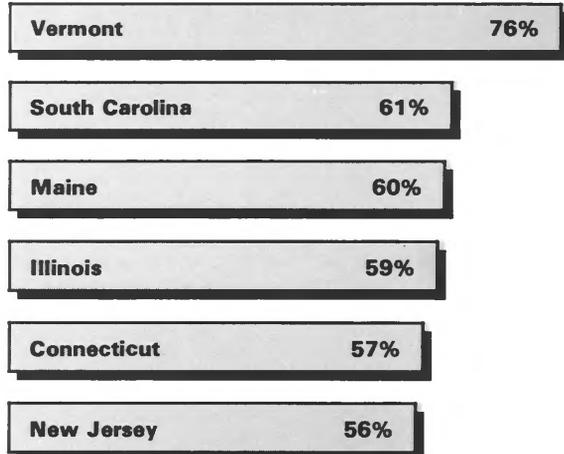
EPRI is also formulating design changes for the Asian manufacturers of digital clocks. One solution being considered would be a rechargeable nickel-cadmium battery of the kind built into some of the VCR’s on the market. Another approach EPRI is considering is sponsoring the development of generic digital clock circuit designs that will accommodate a rechargeable battery, a low-battery indicator, or an automatic reset button. These designs would be made available to the Asian manufacturers.

So don’t despair. There may be a non-blinking clock in your future.

Nuclear energy in the U.S.

States with highest reliance on nuclear energy.

(Percent of electricity from nuclear energy)



Source: U.S. Council for Energy Awareness



Protect the delicate electronics in your appliances and home entertainment equipment from harmful voltage variations with a Surge Sentry System.

Surge Sentry
—only \$99

from Corn Belt Electric Cooperative

Safety quiz

When getting ready to cut or trim a tree, you notice electric lines near it. You should:

- cut the tree anyway because you have to get the tree down today.
- call the cooperative for advice.
- pull the tree over with a rope.
- all of the above.

The answer is b. Please do call the cooperative. If the tree is near the lines, we'll have a forestry crew trim it or take it down. But don't wait until the last minute to call. For tree trimming or removal, we need to know at least two weeks in advance.

Thanksgiving

The offices of Corn Belt Electric Cooperative will be closed Thursday and Friday, November 22 and 23, to celebrate Thanksgiving.

In the event of an electrical emergency, please phone 1-800-322-6541

Happy Holiday.

New members

Welcome to all new CBEC members who officially became a part of the cooperative family in September 1990!

Stephen L. & Traci Ackerman
 Pamela J. Allsopp
 Ted T. & Barbara F. Allsup
 Maria C. Alvarez
 Charles A. & Barbara J. Anthony
 Albert H. & Terriann Bauer
 Dennis & Nancy Barrington
 Michael & Georgianna Behrends
 Dennis W. & Pamela Bierbaum
 Curtis S. & Trina G. Billingsley
 David Walter Bliss
 Arthur R. & Kathlaen Bonvouloir
 Mika Bundy
 Jana Carwall
 Central Water Works Supply, Inc.
 Cynthia A. Chatman
 Doris Chavis
 Ian-Lee D. & Cathia Cobstall
 Thaodora A. Coa
 Ann T. Cogdal
 Colclasure, Inc.
 Floyd Wayne Cook
 Cynthia Craddock
 Jack F. Crossdala
 David & Virginia Daal
 Marvin W. & Lois Detloff
 William Detwailer
 Larry M. Dilks & Sharon E. Scott
 Robert E. & Roberta Dixon
 Anhdao Truong and Anthony C. Do
 Mary Donaldson
 Van D. Dossey
 Christopher B. Downing
 Gary G. & Nancy G. Driscoll
 Donald J. & Deborah L. Ebarla
 Staven A. & Janet L. Eddington
 Fred & Nancy Esken
 Scott E. & Tary J. Evans
 John & Donna M. Evans

Arthur P. & Audrey M. Evon
 Warren C. Fahrman
 Douglas J. & Lynn Fawkas
 Gene E. & Laaann Fishar
 Norman Fitts
 Barbara Folks
 David F. & Karen M. Foltz
 Brian W. & Brenda J. Fore
 Elizabeth Forta
 Edward W. & Viola J. Friel
 Thomas A. Gault
 William Geigla
 Nathalia George
 John M. Gergel
 Tad & Linda R. Giannoni
 William E. & Kathryn S. Glenn
 David D. & Mara A. Goldberg
 Eldon & Joyca Guthals
 Julia A. Habstritt
 Edith M. Hamblin
 Joseph Harbough
 David P. & Lori S. Harper
 Lorena Rivera Hernandez
 Jeff & Wanda Hoenes
 K. Alan & Clarice Holderly
 Pamela D. & Michael E. Harris
 Victoria H. Hayes
 Brian & Mary Sue Hanning
 Nicholas L. Hanson
 Marty & Inga Hogan
 Patricia Hollis
 Diana L. Howard
 Hirao Iijima
 Illini Palla Inc
 James Jaraczawski
 Danisa L. Jenkins
 Jerry & Cheryl J. Jinks
 Norma J. Johnson
 Robert L. Johnson

Joseph J. Kartawich
 Donna L. Kaufman
 Yvonna Keller
 Jeffray A. Kellay
 Larry & Colleen Kennedy
 Angela D. Kirk & Janina Stroemer
 Jeffray T. & Connia S. Kuenneth
 Daniel J. Lafayette
 Bert & Daanna D. Lancaster
 Timothy D. Lana
 Michael J. Long
 Jay N. & Debbie Lowenthal
 Scott A. Lowry
 David Luna
 James & Lisa Lynn
 Paul & Kathy Mahnka
 Michael T. Marry
 Dennis E. Maza & Susan P. Arnold
 Russ & Cheryl McIntire
 Glenn McKinlay
 Mark R. & Elizabeth A. McLaughlin
 Dorothy McWhorter
 Gregory Evans Meyers
 Donna Miller
 Jaroma R. Millar Jr.
 Sally R. Miller
 Wayne & Juliana Montrey
 Cecil M. & Diane Mouser
 Russell G. Neathammer
 Charyl E. Nelson
 Christina Nestor
 John F. Neukom
 Andy Dala & Judith Gail Nowell
 Kevin J. & Jana F. Olson
 Lynn M. Parker
 Claudia & Christopher Pearson
 Richard A. Pearson
 John A. Perri
 Steva & Sandy Peterson

Billya M. & Malria R. Relihan
 James R. & Jana D. Rettick
 River Ridge Hunting Club Inc.
 Gerald H. & Patricia M. Roedell
 Eric A. & Mary L. Roehm
 Paul & Anna M. Roffol
 Phil & Batty Schmidt
 John & Marjoria Schultz
 Dala P. & Kimberly J. Scott
 Tammy Snow
 David J. & Karen P. Snyder
 Bevarly J. & William G. Sparks III
 Kelly & Michale Spanca
 Stewart H. & Karan F. Stabley
 Randall R. & Sharon K. Strait
 Steven G. & Carol L. Struck
 Arthur & Gwenda Sutton
 Michael & Mauræon Svob
 Stephen L. Thomas
 William H. & Karen L. Thomas
 Michael L. Thompson
 Michael Thorp
 Thanh V. & Nikki T. Tran
 Timothy J. & Marcia L. Trantham
 Sam K. Tsui & Jeanie Ting
 Fraddie L. & Melissa A. Vannoy
 David Ventura
 Jill Walp
 Sally J. Watkins
 Soon Hea Wegman
 Kelly Weiss
 Richard & Raylene Wiersba
 Richard L. Winters
 Robert L. Wolfe
 Allan Young & Bill Young
 Linzy Young
 William E. Yowell
 William A. & Charlena Zimmerman

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC., BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

An Equal Opportunity Employer (M/F/H)

Rate Increase

The Member Advisory Committee met on October 30 to be updated by General Manager Jeff Reeves on operations of the cooperative.

A long series of negotiations had been held with Menard Electric Cooperative of Petersburg and looked very promising. These discussions were aimed at consolidating both co-ops into one large organization serving more than 20,000 consumers.

Both boards of directors had negotiated many of the facets of the consolidation to the satisfaction of both groups and the benefit of all members. The Rural Electrification Administration (REA) was looking very favorably at the combination and had commented on the strength to be gained by consolidating operations. Plans were progressing for a membership meeting to vote on the proposed merger.

Unfortunately, the Menard Electric Cooperative board decided that the merger would not be in their best interest and elected not to pursue the consolidation.

With those drawn-out negotiations behind them, our board then turned their collective attention toward a loan application to satisfy our ever-growing construction and system maintenance requirements. The Rural Electrification Administration advised the cooperative that our operating margins (income over expenses) would have to be increased beginning in 1991 or there could be no loan.

The board and management have scrutinized and

ruthlessly pared the operating budgets for the past several years to increase efficiency and to hold down our costs of doing business. An example: we are now serving more than 12,500 members with 56 employees. In 1980 we employed 65 people to serve 10,300 members. Monthly bills have increased because of the higher charges for generating the electricity that we buy and only inflation has affected our cost of distributing the electricity to the membership (wages, benefits, material, insurance, taxes, interest, etc.).

The board then agonized over how much of an increase would be needed to satisfy the REA requirement. The calculations produced a 9 percent figure.

The increase will apply to all of our rate schedules, will be effective January 1, 1991 and will be reflected on the bills mailed in mid-February. The new winter and summer rates for Residential Rate 1 are shown below:

	Winter Rate Sept—June	Summer Rate July & Aug	Monthly Facilities Charge
1st	600 kwh/month @ 11.32¢ each	All kwh per	\$13.00
Next	1200 kwh/month @ 8.36¢ each	month @	
Over	1800 kwh/month @ 6.90¢ each	11.80¢ each	

No one likes an increase in the cost of a basic commodity such as we provide. The board members are co-op members also and are affected just as much as all members are. But in order for your cooperative to remain a viable and vital corporation, the increase, as distasteful as it is, is sorely needed. The members of the board of directors ask for your understanding.



Youth tour to Washington



Essay contest

Our 32nd annual essay contest is under way and we welcome entries from individual sophomores and juniors whose teachers have not assigned the contest as a class project. We'll send two essayists to Washington, D.C. for a week-long tour to meet our congresspersons, tour landmarks, have fun and make friends.

There is no easier way to visit the nation's capital. We pay all your expenses. You write a 1,500 word paper voicing your opinion. And you should have an opinion on this year's topic: "How can electric automobiles benefit the United States?" Didn't know that electric cars were on the horizon? No problem. We provide a packet of information on the topic. Interested? Phone the office for details.

Coping with a winter outage

Winter outages can be miserable. It's almost always dark, always cold, always dismal. Try as we might, they'll always be with us.

But a winter outage doesn't have to be disastrous and you can be relatively cozy if some planning is done and a few precautions are taken.

When the power goes off, the first thing to do is to disconnect those electric circuits that serve delicate electronic appliances and entertainment equipment. This will protect them from any surges that may occur when the power is restored. When it is restored, wait for 15 to 30 minutes to ensure that the outage is over, then reconnect those circuits.

And, if the lights go dim and stay that way, disconnect those circuits that serve motor operated appliances. Dim lights mean that the voltage coming into the home is not high enough to adequately serve motors; a low-voltage situation. Operating motors at low voltage may damage them.

For warmth

1. Several layers of lightweight clothing will keep a body warmer than one heavy piece.

2. A backup heater can be used in good stead, but carefully. If the heater has a flame, ventilation must be provided.

3. During an extended outage, use one room (preferably one on the sunny side of the house with few windows) in the house to conserve as much heat as possible. Open curtains during the day —

close at night.

For light

1. Know where the flashlight and fresh batteries are.
2. For safety, place lighted candles in containers such as coffee cans.

3. Have extra lantern fuel on hand if lanterns are used for light. Refill the lanterns outdoors.

For food

1. Stock supplies of food such as canned meat, tuna, powdered milk and juices, cereal, peanut butter, crackers.

2. Fill plastic jugs with water.

3. Should have throw-away plates, plastic silverware and a manual can opener.

During an extended outage

1. Shut off the water supply (and the electricity to the pump, if you have one) and drain the system. Pour antifreeze into the plumbing fixtures in the bathroom and the kitchen.

Have the following general items on hand

1. Wind up alarm clock

2. Battery-powered radio

3. Extra blankets

Prepare as if every winter outage will be a long one and you'll not be caught short of creature comforts. You can be confident and rest assured that your employees will work around the clock to restore service to all members as quickly as possible.

John Butterfield retires

John Butterfield, a member of our board of directors for the past 19 years, has retired from the farm and from the board of directors and moved to town. John and his wife, Winifred, do not have the hunting, fishing, camping, traveling plans that other retirees always announce. They are sensibly going to ease into retirement by completing many projects that they have not had time for over past years and will stay involved in various community and neighborhood activities.

As the highlight of his 19 years of service to the co-op, John cites the organization of Soyland Power Cooperative and the leadership role the Corn Belt board took in the formation. This is the generation and transmission cooperative from which Corn Belt (and 20 other distribution cooperatives) purchases electricity. And, it was formed in response to a need to

obtain long-term supplies of power. In the early 1970s the longest contract obtainable from the investor-owned electric utilities was three years with no automatic renewal provision—decidedly short-term.

John is also proud of the upgrading of the equipment used by our line department that has made Corn Belt one of the best-equipped co-ops in the state. The efficiencies gained by the upgrade are incalculable and, of course, the modern equipment has created a safer working environment for the line crews.

John's leadership and drive will be difficult to replace. But, after 19 years of dedicated volunteer service, he has certainly earned this opportunity to slow the pace and take things a little easier.

Thank you John, from all of us—employees and members alike.

Office closing

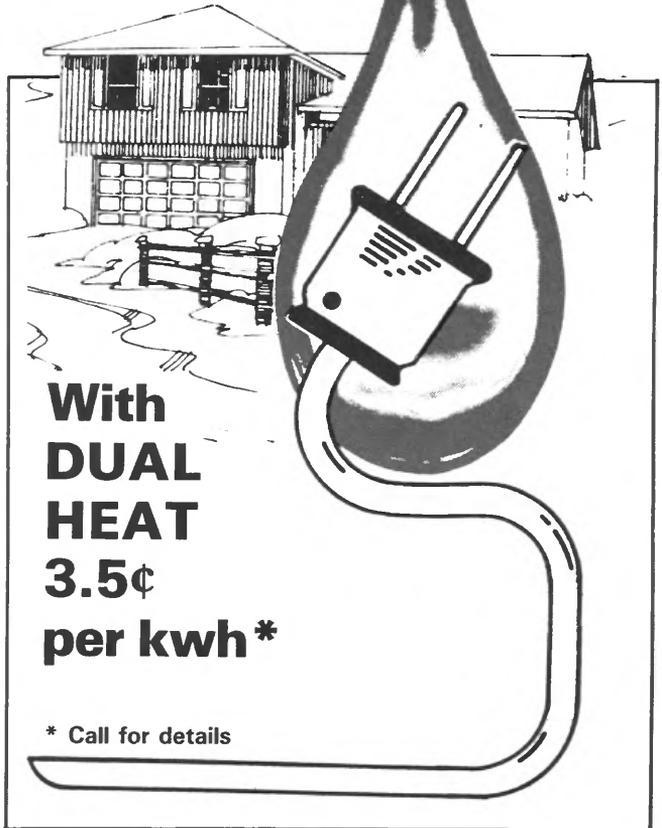
The office of Corn Belt Electric Cooperative will be closed December 24 and 25 to commemorate Christmas. We will also be closed on December 31 and January 1 to celebrate the New Year.

In the event of an electrical emergency, please phone: 1-800-322-6541

**Bowl games are coming!
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✓ Mark your calendar!!

March 1991

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

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**31 March 16, 1991
Annual Meeting**

CHRISTMAS TREES

An 8-foot pine can burn completely in just 27 seconds--and create tremendous heat.



KEEP

water in base container. Check it often.

NEVER

use regular string of lights on a metal tree--the danger of shock is great. Use spotlight to illuminate metal tree.

TURN LIGHTS OFF

when you leave the tree unattended.



PLACE TREE

away from heat sources and open flames.

OUTDOOR LIGHTING can cause fires

USE LIGHTS



approved for outdoors--check for Underwriter's Laboratory label.

MAKE SURE



circuits are not overloaded.

CHECK CORDS and PLUGS



for wear, frayed insulation, cracks, loose connections.

Help with electric bills

We know that every winter circumstances occur in every family that make it difficult to meet monthly bills. The cooperative is eager to assist in setting up payment schedules so that the member doesn't fall into the late payer status.

If payment schedules will not solve the immediate problem, the state of Illinois has a program to help that is administered through locally managed offices throughout our service territory.

We urge any members that anticipates a bill-paying problem this winter to contact the office to make arrangements for a payment schedule or to contact the agency that serves your county for financial assistance.

County	Agency
DeWitt Logan Piatt	Central Illinois Economic Development Corp. 325 South Chicago St. Lincoln—Phone 217-732-2159
Macon	Decatur-Macon County Opportunities Corp. 1122 East Marietta St. Decatur—Phone 217-428-2193
Ford	East Central Illinois Community Action Program 501 North Kimball St. Danville—Phone 217-443-2705
Livingston McLean	Mid-Central Community Action, Inc. 923 East Grove St. Bloomington—Phone 309-829-0691
Tazwell Woodford	Tri-County Regional Planning Commission 632 West Jefferson St. Morton—Phone 309-266-9941

Of all the reasons for electrical outages, one makes absolutely no sense at all

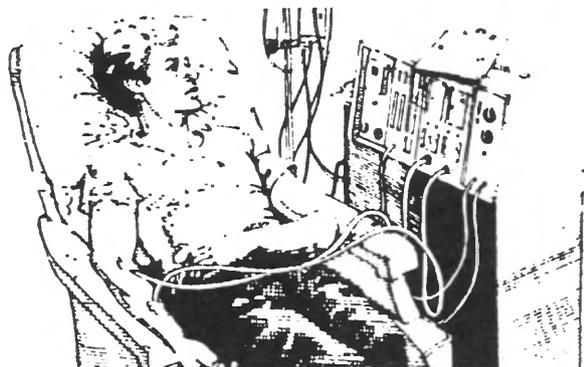
Shooting electric distribution lines and equipment is malicious destruction of property. It is not sport, but vandalism, pure and simple.

What's worse, this reckless act not only destroys equipment and creates outages, but it endangers the lives of the culprits and others. Lines fastened around insulators shattered by bullets have been known to drop onto shooters, electrocuting them. Innocent people in the area of a downed line are also in danger of being seriously injured or killed.

Who pays for this vandalism? You do, maybe twice: Once as an electric cooperative member whose bill helps pay for the maintenance required to repair such damage. And twice if you were the victim of an outage caused by such a destructive act.

If you have hunters in your family, stress to them that electrical equipment is not fair game. And if you see anyone shooting at electrical equipment, please contact your county sheriff or our office immediately. (Ph. 800-322-6541)

Do you depend on life-support equipment?



Corn Belt Electric strives to maintain the best possible service with a minimum of outage time. However, occasional outages, either planned or uncontrolled, do occur.

The cooperative keeps a registry of members on file who depend on life-support equipment so that our line crews can respond quickly in the event of a life-threatening outage.

Do you need to be added to this list? Is your address on the list but no longer needs to be? Please call the office and help us to update the registry.



Two great Christmas gifts for the family

- A Free Bill-buster!! and get \$50 credit
- A Surge Sentry for only \$99

Call the office today. Free installation

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC., BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS CORN BELT ELECTRIC