

Egyptian Messenger

The Egyptian Messenger, published by the Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association, with offices in Steeleville and Murphysboro, providing electric service to Southern Illinois.

From the Manager's Desk

by Harry Kuhn



DEGREE DAYS

We are now in the winter heating season and as usual, we are getting calls from members who just don't believe they could have used that much electricity. Members who may have been gone for some time over the holidays are especially adamant that they could not have used the amount of energy that they are being billed. We go through this every year and there are several things that one needs to keep in mind when assessing your energy usage.

The first thing to keep in mind is that even if you are not at home, your heating system is going to operate unless you shut it down completely. Granted, turning down the thermostat may cut the usage somewhat, but when it is 15 degrees outside and the thermostat is set at 60 degrees, your heating system is going to operate to make up the difference. If it did not, everything inside your home would freeze. Thus, if your house did not freeze while you were gone, your heating system was operating in your absence. The amount it operates, of course, is dependent on the outside temperatures and other weather conditions.

One of the relative measures used to compare one heating season with another is degree days. Degree days are computed by averaging the high and low temperatures for the day and then subtracting that average from 65 degrees. Thus, if the high for the day was 50 degrees and the low was 30 degrees, the average would be 40 degrees and subtracting that average from 65 would give you a total of 25 degree days. Sixty-five degrees is used as the base line figure because it is assumed that at that temperature it would not be necessary to put any heat into a residence. Once degree days are computed for each day, they are totaled for whatever time period is being considered.

While degree days are a relative measure, they

don't really tell the whole story and the past couple months are a good illustration. Degree days do not take into consideration wind or cloud cover and it makes a big difference if the sun doesn't shine. The sun shining through windows and beating on roofs and walls will add heat to a structure and when it is overcast, you lose that heating effect. For the last two months or more, it has been overcast most of the time, so electrical usage for heating purposes is going to be up compared to a like period when the sun may have shone.

The lack of sunshine the past few months does also illustrate one of the problems with renewable energy sources, such as solar energy. You, as a member of this cooperative, expect that we will have sufficient energy for your needs whether the sun shines or not, so we have to install generating capacity to meet those needs. During periods when the sun does shine solar generation will displace coal generation and the burning of some coal is avoided, but our problem is that our system peaks in the heating season usually occur when the sun is not shining. Thus, it appears to me that solar energy will displace some coal burning, but will not save the member any money because he will have to pay for the cost of constructing two generating systems instead of one.

LOCATION NUMBERS

Have you ever wondered how we find your residence at times of outages or when you are having other electrical problems, especially if you live in rural areas and do not have any street addresses? With over 11,000 meters in service, we obviously cannot remember where everyone lives, although our older linemen do know where many of you live, so we must have a mapping system that is easy to read and use. The system we use is based on township maps and if you are able to follow maps at all, you can find anyone on our system with only a few minutes of instruction.

To lay out our mapping system, we simply took all the townships in our service area and numbered them from East to West and top to bottom. Those numbers are what we call our map numbers and if you happen to live next to the Baldwin power plant in Township T4S-R7W, you are in Map 12 as far as we are concerned. If you live in

This information is important when reporting an outage

MAP	SECT.	HOUSE	MEMBER	METER
12	12	1234	12345	12345

John Q. Public
Route 1, Box 2
Rural, IL 12345

DATE _____ 19____				NET (20TH TO 31ST)	
				GROSS (AFTER 31ST)	
PRESENT READING				SECURITY LIGHT	
LAST READING				PRIOR BALANCE	
KWH USED				TOTAL PAYMENT	

COMPLETE AND RETURN WITH PAYMENT TO:
EGYPTIAN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 38 • STEELEVILLE, ILLINOIS 62288

T9S-R1W, you would know it as Carbondale Township, but to us it is Map 49. Once we have located you in a township, the next designation is the section where your service is located. Thus, if you live in Section 3 of Carbondale Township, the first two parts of your location number are 49-3. If your service happens to be the fifth service constructed in that section, your complete location number would be 49-3-5. If this number format looks familiar to you, it should because your location number is also your account number.

If you are the member at 49-3-5 and call in after hours to report an outage or some other problem, the person on duty keeps you on the phone until he or she can find your name in the alphabetical listing they have of every member to make sure we have your location number. If they did not do that, Murphy's law would come into play and the person reporting the problem would not be the person in whose name we hold the service and we would not know where the problem is. Once we verify that we have your location number, it is simply a matter of calling a serviceman and telling him that we have an outage at 49-3-5. He turns to page 49 in his map book and looks in section 3. We use a scale of one and a half inches to the mile, so he only has to look in that small area to find member number 3 along the power line in that section.

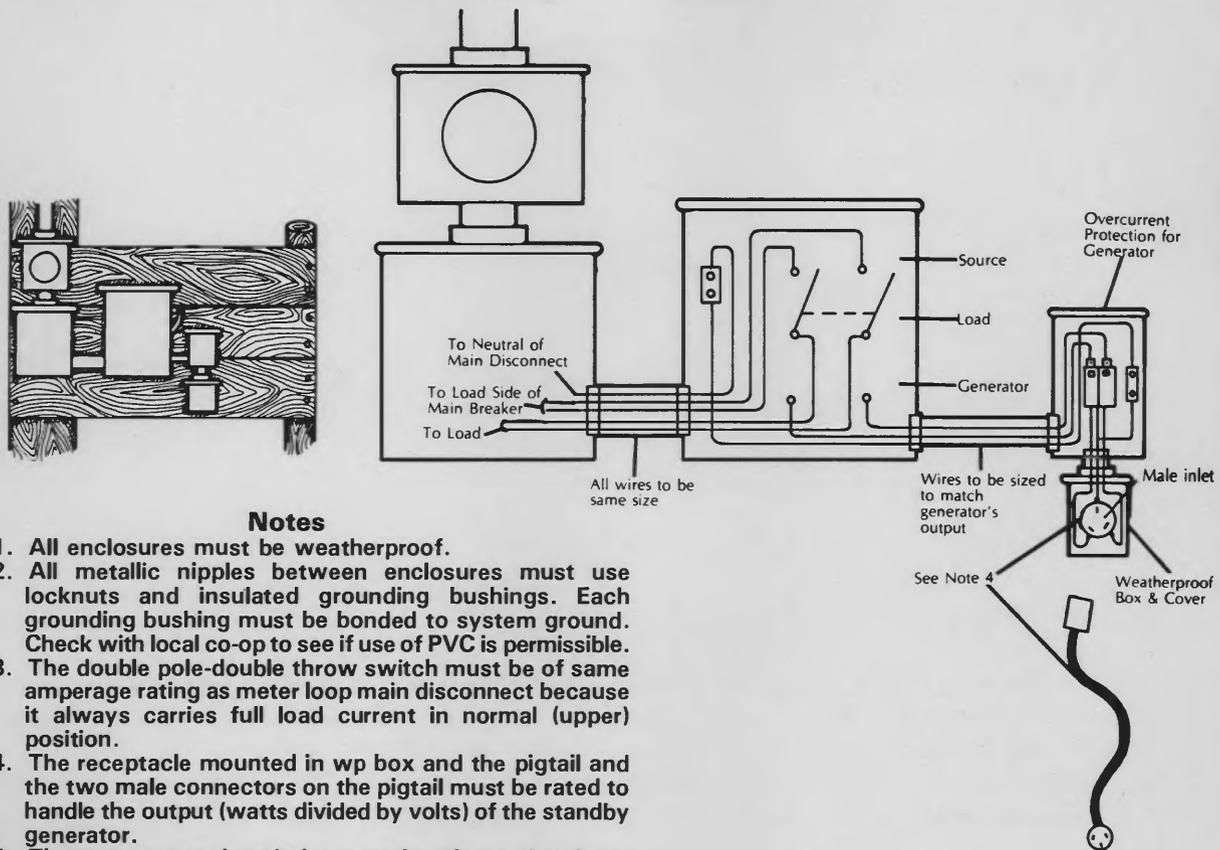
It is a very simple system, but in areas where we have high concentrations of members, our little inch and a half square would get so cluttered with member numbers that it would be un-

readable. In those areas we make blow-up maps and each subdivision or mobile home park is mapped by lots and we try to use the same lot numbers as used by the developer or park operator. Where we have several concentrated areas in one section, we use the member location number part of the account number to distinguish between them. For example, one member might live on lot three of a mobile home park and his location might be 49-27-1003. Another member living on lot three in the park next door might have the location number of 49-27-3003.

As you might guess, when reporting an outage or calling in on other matters pertaining to billing or whatever, your account number is one of the most important pieces of information you can give us. The number is located in the upper left corner of the billing slip you send in each month. You now know what map, section and house mean, so take a look at your account number the next time you pay your bill. Besides being your account, it is your electrical address.

When I had outage duty before I became manager, I was new to the area and did not have the slightest clue where Tomcat Hill or Leanderville Road or No Name Road were, but I could find a location number on the map. So, keep that in mind when you call in to report a problem. Our system is 80 miles from one end to the other and nobody on outage duty knows all the roads or local names given to roads, so while you may think everyone knows where you live, we most likely don't. However, we sure can find you if we have the location number.

Emergency standby generator connection on meter pole



Notes

1. All enclosures must be weatherproof.
2. All metallic nipples between enclosures must use locknuts and insulated grounding bushings. Each grounding bushing must be bonded to system ground. Check with local co-op to see if use of PVC is permissible.
3. The double pole-double throw switch must be of same amperage rating as meter loop main disconnect because it always carries full load current in normal (upper) position.
4. The receptacle mounted in wp box and the pigtail and the two male connectors on the pigtail must be rated to handle the output (watts divided by volts) of the standby generator.
5. There are several variations to the above drawings, please contact your cooperative for specific guidelines before connecting and putting the equipment into use. We urge you to contact us before you purchase a generator.

Standby generator needs double-throw switch

A portable generator or alternator, used at home as an emergency power supply source, can be a wonderful device in times of power loss.

However, even the most useful device can cause serious problems if not used correctly.

One of the most common misconceptions about portable generators is that they can be plugged directly into a house's circuitry and be used to substitute for the loss of power during an outage. Plugging such a power source directly into your home's circuits can cause serious electrical problems, including burned out and badly overloaded circuits, creating a fire hazard.

Portable power units are designed and rated to handle specific power loads, which should be carefully adhered to at all times. Trying to operate an entire household circuit system on a portable unit is asking for trouble. In addition, when power is fed into your household circuits from a portable unit it is also being fed into your outside lines, energizing otherwise "dead" lines during outages.

Such action can lead to severe damage to the system, as well as create a serious safety hazard.

Double-pole switches installed at the meter box can prevent power from a portable source from entering incoming lines, reducing the potential for serious problems.

If you own such a unit or are planning on purchasing one, make sure you know the operating limits of this device. If you are not sure, please feel free to ask for advice from the personnel at Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association. They can be helpful in giving you specific wiring guides as set by the National Electrical Code.

Office closing

Our offices will be closed on Friday, February 12, for Lincoln's Birthday and Monday, February 22, for Washington's Birthday.



HAMILTON COUNTY TELEPHONE CO-OP

HIGHWAY 142 EAST DAHLGREN, IL 62828
 TELEPHONE 736-2211 / 643-5110
 1-800-44RURAL

BASIC SERVICES

EXPANDED BASIC	\$19.35	BASIC SERVICE	\$12.95	G1 BASIC	\$8.95	Arts & Entertainment	G1-12
						CNN	G1-07
						Country Music Television	G1-13
						Discovery	G1-22
						ESPN	G1-09
						Family Channel	G1-11
						Headline News	G1-08
						Nashville Network	G1-02
						USA	G1-21
						WGN	G1-03
WTBS	G1-18						
KTVT	S3-05						
Learning Channel	F1-02						
Lifetime	G3-20						
Nickelodeon	G3-19						
Nostalgia	F4-21						
Travel Channel	F1-09						
Weather Channel	G3-13						
WPIX	S3-09						
Black Entertainment	F1-20						
MTV	G3-17						
Prime Network	T3-17						
VH-1	G3-15						
WABC	F2-04						
WBBM	F2-02						
WXIA	F2-12						
WSBK	S3-03						
WWOR	G1-15						

Any Basic without ESPN \$1.00 Less

PREMIUM SERVICES

PT24	WABC - New York	F2-04
\$3.95	WBBM - Chicago	F2-02
	WXIA - Atlanta	F2-12

SKYLINE	KTLA - Los Angeles	S3-15
\$3.00	WSBK - Boston	S3-03
	WWOR - New York	G1-15

NETLINK	KCNC - Denver	F2-22
\$5.95	KMGH - Denver	F2-03
	KRMA - Denver	F2-18
	KUSA - Denver	F2-01
	KWGN - Denver	F2-17

HBO	East	G1-23
\$7.95	West	F1-13

CINEMAX	East	G1-19
\$7.95	West	F1-23

SHOWTIME	East	G1-05
\$7.95	West	G1-16

MOVIE CHANNEL	East	G1-10
\$7.95	West	G1-14

DISNEY	East	G1-04
\$7.95	West	G1-24

SSN	Home Team Sports, HSE, KBL, MSG, Midwest Sports, Pass, Pacific Sports, Prime Network, Prime Sports NW, Prime Sports, Prime Ticket, Sport South Sunshine Network	
\$8.55		

Any two of
 HBO, Cinemax, Showtime, Movie Channel, or Disney
 \$14.95

Any three: \$20.95; Any four: \$27.95; All five: \$33.95

What to do if the power goes off

We offer these suggestions:

1. Check your main fuses or circuit breakers.
2. Check your meter pole. If you have breakers, make sure they are in the "on" position.
3. If you still have no power, check with your neighbors to see if they have power.

4. DURING OFFICE HOURS: (8 a.m. — 4 p.m., Monday through Friday)
 CALL THE OFFICE NUMBER NEAREST YOU: Steeleville 965-3434 or Murphysboro 684-2143.
 AFTER OFFICE HOURS:
 STEELEVILLE AREA — Call 965-3437. If there is a delay, please remain on the line until the call

is answered.

MURPHYSBORO AREA — Call 684-2144.

THERE IS ALWAYS A COMPANY REPRESENTATIVE ON CALL AT ONE OF THESE TWO NUMBERS.

5. Please give the person who answers the member's name as it is billed, and other information requested.

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1992

We have closed the books on 1992 and it was a relatively good year for your cooperative. After gazing into my crystal ball in late 1991, I projected that our wholesale purchases from Southern Illinois Power Co-operative would decline in 1992 and my projections were very close to actual purchases. I had projected that we would purchase 196,900,000 kwhs and we actually purchased 196,215,536 kwhs. On the peak demand side, I had projected purchases of 500,000 kw and we actually purchased 492,000 kw. While I would like to claim that I really have the projection business down pat, it is merely a matter of trying to outguess the weather and, most of the time, the guess is wrong. When I made my projections for 1992, I really was not planning on a relatively warm winter and cool summer, but that is what we experienced and the numbers just fell into place.

What the numbers mean is that in 1992 we actually experienced a 4.5 percent decline in kwh purchases as compared to the previous year. Kilowatt demand purchases declined approximately 6.4 percent. While the numbers are down for 1992, it does not mean that actual connected load on the system is declining, it just means that the temperatures that would have created more usage simply did not occur in 1992. This system is very temperature sensitive due to all the heating and air conditioning load and our usage is driven mainly by outside temperatures. We actually gained about 170 members during the year, but that gain did not show up in the usage figures for 1992 because of the weather. Our peak monthly demand was about 20 percent below the all-time high monthly peak established in December a few years ago, so it is a little difficult for us to know just how much load we might have out there until

we get some more really cold weather again. We are sure that it is growing and that is why we added another substation two years ago and rebuilt all of our substations in the Carbondale area. We really don't know how much load is out there, but we believe we have the system in shape to handle whatever occurs.

Last year was also a good year from an outage standpoint. We had the fewest number of overtime hours worked over a period of several years and that translates to fewer outages. While the weather cooperated, the fact that we are continuing to maintain right-of-ways, change out defective poles and rebuild old lines has had a lot to do with the increase in service reliability. With 2,000 miles of line in place and with thousands of transformers, fuses and connectors in use, there are a lot of things that can fail or go wrong, but we are working on the major causes or outages and it appears that these efforts are showing results.

Last year did see the completion of all the major items in our two-year construction work plan. With the completion of the Giant City Road rebuild, we were able to move the contractor into changing out bad poles. In addition to rebuilding all of the substations in the Carbondale area, we added about 20,000 KVA of substation transformer capacity to the system, so we should be set for at least 10 years. Over the past two years we have invested a lot of money and effort into improving both system reliability and capacity, and hopefully those investments will meet your needs and expectations for many years to come.

MAILINGS

Last month I wrote on how we find your service location and this month I want to discuss briefly some of the mailings we make each month. We have approximately 11,700 active meters on the system and of that total we read about 2,700. The balance are self-billed accounts where the member reads his own meter and figures his own bill. As you might expect, a self-billed system does leave quite a bit of room for errors and we do experience quite a few each month. If you made an error and received an error notice, don't feel that you were the only one because, on the average, you have

about 1,200 other members as company. We typically send out about 1,200 error notices a month, which is close to 15 percent of our self-billed accounts. You might ask how so many people could make mistakes and the answer is that it is relatively easy to do. In order to submit a bill, a self-billed member must first read the meter accurately, enter the reading in his or her billing book, subtract the current month's reading from the correct previous month's reading and then read the amount owed from the correct line on the rate chart. So, a member can read the meter wrong, pick up the wrong previous month's reading, make an error in subtraction or read the wrong line on the rate chart. In addition, those with multiple meters have the opportunity to mix up the cards and readings. As you can readily see, there is a lot of room for error and we do have all of these errors each month. It is part of the self-billed system and while we would like to see no error, we know that is not a realistic expectation. All we can ask is that you double check your figures before you write the check and if you will do that, it will save a lot of time and effort on the part of our billing department.

Another significant mailing we make each month is late payment notices. As with error notices, a typical month's mailing is approximately 1,200 notices. That means about 10 percent of the members are paying their bill past the due date and are paying the gross charge. About

all I can say in that regard is that those who are paying late would save themselves some money and save us the time and effort required to mail the notices if they could see a way to get themselves current in their payments.

The other fairly large mailing we make each month is the one we would rather not make and that is the notice of disconnect for non-payment. We mail 400-500 of these notices each month and these are the ones that really involve time and effort on our part. A good number of these will require additional follow-up on our part and during a typical month we will actually disconnect 20-25 of these accounts. Again, there is nothing I can really suggest in this regard, other than for members in this situation to try and get themselves current whereby they do not pay the late charges and collection trip charges. We probably have a number of members who would save equivalent to one month's bill if they always paid on time and avoided all of the collection charges that we must bill them for when we have to make collection trips, disconnect and reconnects for non-payment. We are in the business to sell a service and it is not in the interests of the cooperative to have to disconnect a consumer. However, in fairness to those who do pay their bill, no matter how difficult it might be, we must make every effort to collect from everyone and disconnect to protect against further losses if a member does not make payment when due.



Tornado season is near!

When the Weather Bureau learns of tornado conditions, it issues a tornado watch. Should a tornado develop, it sends out a tornado warning. Here are some tips to keep in mind:

- Plan ahead of time where to take shelter.
- If you must be in the field, stay within 10 minutes of your shelter.

- When you learn that a tornado is headed your way, move to shelter. The safest place is an underground shelter. Because of the general direction a tornado takes, the southwest corner is the safest.

- If you are in a vehicle and see a funnel cloud approaching, try to leave the area as rapidly as possible. If you can't escape the path of the tornado, stop and get away from the vehicle. Lie flat in a ravine or ditch and protect your head from flying debris.

- It's a good idea to take cover anytime you encounter an unusually severe storm. Darkness or heavy rain can obscure a funnel cloud and it is best to take cover just in case.

Statement of nondiscrimination

"Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association has filed with the federal government a compliance assurance in which it assures the Rural Electrification Administration that it will comply fully with all requirements of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the rules and regulations of the Department of Agriculture issued thereunder, to the end that no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the conduct of its program and the operation of its program and the operation of its program facilities. Under this assurance, this organization is committed not to discriminate against any person on the ground of race, color, or national origin in its policies and practices relating to treatment of beneficiaries and participants including rates, conditions, and extension of service,

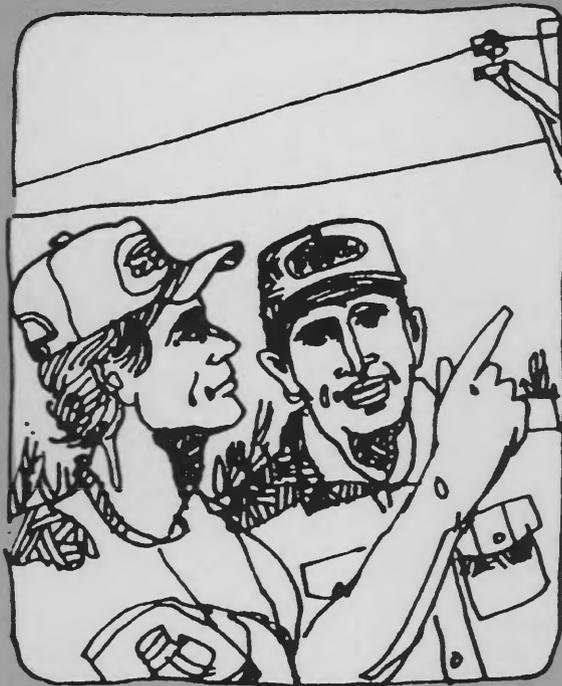
use of any of its facilities, attendance at and participation in any meetings of beneficiaries and participants of the exercise of any rights of such beneficiaries and participants in the conduct of the operation of this organization."

"Any person who believes himself, or any specific class of individuals, to be subjected by this organization to discrimination prohibited by Title VII of the Act and the rules and regulations issued thereunder may, by himself or a representative, file with the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, or the Rural Electrification Administration, Washington, D.C. 20250 or the organization, or all a written complaint. Such complaint must be filed not later than 180 days after the alleged discrimination, or by such later date to which the Secretary of Agriculture or the Rural Electrification Administration extends the time for filing. Identity of complaints will be kept confidential except to the extent necessary to carry out the purpose of the rules and regulations."

Think 'safe'

Responsible Electric Accident Control Today

The accident you avoid
is as important as the ones that really happen



No scene depicts the character and success of the United States quite as well as that of modern farm equipment planting or harvesting. The technology and ingenuity of those machines has helped the American farmer continue to enjoy bountiful harvests to feed our nation's population and a great portion of the world's population as well. When you move into your fields to plant, tend or harvest your crops, please exercise Responsible Electric Accident Control Today (RE-ACT) to make your harvest as safe as it is rewarding.

Modern farming requires the use of large, complex machinery. Each year a tragic number of accidents are caused by careless handling of farm equipment around electric power lines. Your electric cooperative urges you to use caution at all times — to watch for overhead power lines, utility poles and guy wires, and avoid any contact with this potentially lethal power equipment.

Insist that hired hands and family members alike learn to survey their working areas carefully before engaging farm equipment in work activities. Have all workers assure themselves that the equipment they are using will not come into contact with power lines or power support equipment.





HAMILTON COUNTY TELEPHONE CO-OP

HIGHWAY 442 EAST DAHLGREN, IL 62828
TELEPHONE 736-2211 / 643-5110
1-800-44RURAL

BASIC SERVICES

EXPANDED BASIC	BASIC SERVICE	G1 BASIC	Arts & Entertainment	G1-12
			CNN	G1-07
			Country Music Television	G1-13
			Discovery	G1-22
			ESPN	G1-09
			Family Channel	G1-11
			Headline News	G1-08
			Nashville Network	G1-02
			USA	G1-21
			WGN	G1-03
			WTBS	G1-18
			KTVT	S3-05
			Learning Channel	F1-02
Lifetime	G3-20			
Nickelodeon	G3-19			
Nostalgia	F4-21			
Travel Channel	F1-09			
Weather Channel	G3-13			
WPIX	S3-09			
Black Entertainment	F1-20			
MTV	G3-17			
Prime Network	T3-17			
VH-1	G3-15			
WABC	F2-04			
WBBM	F2-02			
WXIA	F2-12			
WSBK	S3-03			
WWOR	G1-15			

Any Basic without ESPN \$1.00 Less

PREMIUM SERVICES

PT24	WABC - New York	F2-04
\$3.95	WBBM - Chicago	F2-02
	WXIA - Atlanta	F2-12

SKYLINE	KTLA - Los Angeles	S3-15
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	WWOR - New York	G1-15

NETLINK	KCNC - Denver	F2-22
\$5.95	KMGH - Denver	F2-03
	KRMA - Denver	F2-18
	KUSA - Denver	F2-01
	KWGN - Denver	F2-17

HBO	East	G1-23
\$7.95	West	F1-13

CINEMAX	East	G1-19
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SHOWTIME	East	G1-05
\$7.95	West	G1-16

MOVIE CHANNEL	East	G1-10
\$7.95	West	G1-14

DISNEY	East	G1-04
\$7.95	West	G1-24

SSN	Home Team Sports, HSE, KBL, MSG, Midwest Sports, Pass, Pacific Sports, Prime Network, Prime Sports NW, Prime Sports, Prime Ticket, Sport South Sunshine Network	
\$8.55		

Any two of
HBO, Cinemax, Showtime, Movie Channel, or Disney
\$14.95

Any three: \$20.95; Any four: \$27.95; All five: \$33.95

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REA

Most of you either watched President Clinton's State of the Union speech or have read that the Rural Electrification Administration was specifically mentioned as one program where cuts would be made. There has been some concern as to how that would affect Egyptian Electric Cooperative in the future, so perhaps now is a good time to discuss what the relationship is between Egyptian Electric Cooperative and the Rural Electrification Administration, which is more commonly known as "REA."

Over the years, and especially during the early years of Egyptian Electric, the cooperative was simply known as and called the "REA." That term is still used by many people today in referring to the cooperative, so there is some confusion when the news media refers to Rural Electrification as REA. With the confusion in names, it is natural for people to assume that references to REA are, in fact, references to their own local electric cooperative. Although the Rural Electrification Administration is associated with the electric cooperatives, they are totally separate entities.

The Rural Electrification Administration is a government agency that was formed for the purpose of bringing electricity to the rural areas and as such was set up as a lending institution to loan money to utilities to extend electric services to those unserved areas. It was intended that private utilities would borrow the money to get the job done, but when that did not happen, another means was needed and the idea of electric cooperatives was put forth as a possible way of accomplishing the task. The idea took hold and approximately 1,000 electric cooperatives were ultimately formed across the country and the rest, as they say, is history.

Each cooperative that was formed was set up as

a locally owned and controlled business. The members of the cooperative own the business and it is controlled through a member-elected board of directors. Directors on the board are elected at the cooperative's annual meeting. The only connection between the government agency and the cooperative is simply a banker-borrower relationship. The federal government loans money to the electric cooperatives and it holds first mortgage on the total electric plant.

When REA was initially formed in 1936, the interest rate for loans was 2 percent and REA was the total lender to the cooperatives. That relationship continued until the early 1970's when, as some of you might recall, President Nixon tried to eliminate REA by executive order. That, of course, did not stand, but two major changes were made in the loan program in 1973. First, the interest rate was raised to 5 percent and secondly, the cooperatives were required to borrow some of their money needs elsewhere. At that time the cooperatives formed their own banking institution, the National Rural Utilities Finance Corporation (CFC), and since 1973 your cooperative has borrowed 30 percent of its capital needs from CFC. The interest rate from CFC is based on CFC's cost of the money it raised on the Wall Street money market. To allow the cooperatives to borrow from someone else, the government had to make lien accommodations to allow CFC to also have a mortgage on the utility plant.

One other change that has come about is that prior to 1973, G&T cooperatives, such as Southern Illinois Power Co-operative, also borrowed from REA at the regular loan rate of 5 percent. However, the capital needs of the G&T's were becoming so great that they were taking the total loan appropriation and there was nothing left to loan the distribution cooperatives. So, a guaranteed loan program was instituted whereby REA would simply guarantee the loan and the G&T's would get their money elsewhere.

It was envisioned that the private banks would pick up the loans, but in reality the Federal Financing Bank underbid all other banks and it made all the guaranteed loans. The interest rate is the government's cost of money plus a loan fee, so the government does make money on the loans. We

have not seen the details of President Clinton's proposals, but we infer that what he is probably proposing is that the interest rate on the loan program for distribution be increased and I would guess he probably has a rate equal to the government's cost of money in mind. Currently the loan lending level to distribution cooperatives is set at 600 million dollars a year, so that is the money you are talking about when you consider reducing the interest subsidy to electric cooperatives.

How would an interest rate increase affect your cooperative? Well, it will increase our operating costs over time and those costs will ultimately have to be passed on to the members. There will, however, be no immediate effect because we just had a loan approved last year and we anticipate that it will be several years before we submit another application, barring any major storms that might wipe out our operating reserves. What the overall impact will be with time is difficult to predict because it will depend on our borrowing needs and the interest rates at the time the loan is made. As we know from experience during the past 20 years, interest rates can vary widely with time.

Should the interest rates be raised? That is a matter of personal opinion, but we have always argued that cooperatives by and large serve the low-density rural areas and some assistance is justified to keep rural rates somewhat in line with those enjoyed by those living in the high density urban areas. We also argue that private utilities and municipals also receive government subsidies in the form of tax breaks, so an interest subsidy for rural electric cooperatives is not out of line. Critics of the program always want to point to fact that some of the funds are used to serve members in urban areas, but I would argue that we have a right and an obligation to serve all customers in our service area and those more concentrated areas help lower the cost for everyone. Egyptian Electric has the second-highest density per mile for cooperatives in the state and it is approximately 5.6 members per mile

of line. When you compare that to densities of 30-35 customers per mile for private utilities, you can see the problem rural cooperatives face. The cooperative that serves my former home in North Dakota has less than two members per mile of line and that number is decreasing, so I believe arguments can be made for government assistance with borrowing in light of subsidies that others receive.

Regardless of how strong those of us associated with the program feel about its merits, I believe electric cooperatives are willing to share in solving the government's budget problems as long as our members get equal and fair treatment. The business of rural electrification is not over because there are always changes to be made and lines to build and members to connect and we expect to be in business for a long time. The debate over the Rural Electrification Program has always puzzled me somewhat, because it is probably the most successful program the government has ever attempted. Probably too successful to suit some people, but the facts are that a bunch of people tackled a job that no one else wanted to attempt and they got the job done without the problems that have usually been associated with other government programs. The primary reason it was so successful is that while it is considered a government program, it was really a local program controlled and operated by local people, and the government's role was primarily limited to being the banker. Granted, the government as banker imposed a lot of rules and regulations that your neighborhood banker would not, but most of them made sense and resulted in a strong, uniform program without any scandals or other problems. If other government programs had been administered with the care and oversight that the rural electrification program received, we wouldn't be in near the mess we are today. I won't deny that I am prejudiced, but I don't believe that this program has to defend itself to anyone for its success. It has been a shining example of what can be accomplished when people work together for the common good.

What to do if the power goes off

We offer these suggestions:

1. Check your main fuses or circuit breakers.
2. Check your meter pole. If you have breakers, make sure they are in the "on" position.
3. If you still have no power, check with your neighbors to see if they have power.

4. DURING OFFICE HOURS: (8 a.m. — 4 p.m., Monday through Friday) CALL THE OFFICE NUMBER NEAREST YOU: Steeleville 965-3434 or Murphysboro 684-2143. AFTER OFFICE HOURS: STEELEVILLE AREA — Call 965-3437. If there is a delay, please remain on the line until the call

is answered.

MURPHYSBORO AREA — Call 684-2144.

THERE IS ALWAYS A COMPANY REPRESENTATIVE ON CALL AT ONE OF THESE TWO NUMBERS.

5. Please give the person who answers the member's name as it is billed, and other information requested.

Hogs star on Timpner family farm

(Editor's note: The following article is a news release announcing the selection of an Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association member, Gary Timpner, as a 1993 Master Farmer by Prairie Farmer magazine.)

When the Pinckneyville Community Hospital faced financial difficulty, it turned three times during the last 13 years to hog and grain farmer Gary Timpner as its board chairman. "Like most small hospitals, we've had some rough times, but they're all straightened out now," says Timpner.

When he's not serving as a community leader, Timpner spends much of his time with a 120-sow herd he built with his brother, Ralph. They produce about 1,900 feeder pigs and finished hogs a year. They also run 10 to 15 beef cows and their calves.

"We have a closed swine herd for disease control and genetic improvement," Gary says. "Once a year we artificially breed 10 to 12 sows with fresh semen and raise our own boars from this breeding. We have not brought a pig on this farm for 10 years."

Gary thinks that livestock marketing will change dramatically in the near future. You'll see more emphasis on lean percentage of hog and cattle carcasses — the amount of lean meat in any animal, he says. Grade and yield, though, would include some fat.

"We'll find out whether we're doing the right thing with artificial insemination, or if we need to start buying gilts and boars from outside sources," he adds.

The Timpners farm 1,188 acres, planting no-till corn, soybeans, and wheat on all but their creek bottoms. Gary claims to be among the first farmers in Perry County to plant no-till corn — six or seven years before Ralph joined the farm in 1972. As early as 1980, Gary's family was honored as Goodyear's Conservation Farm Family of the Year in Perry County.

The Timpners' yields are pretty good for Southern Illinois. Although corn ranged between 45 and 177 bushels per acre in 1992, the entire farm averaged 97 bushels. Last year's wheat averaged a record 50.5 bushels for the farm. Full-season soybeans averaged 34 bushels and doublecrop beans averaged 28.4 bushels.

About three years ago, Gary and his brother started custom-farming for a coal company, which grew to about 1,500 acres last year. In 1991, Gary and his wife, Irma, and Ralph and his wife, Helen, started the Timpner Hay Company with their cousin Bill Timpner and his son, Bill Van, and their wives.

They grew about 440 acres of alfalfa last year and sold hay to truckers who hauled it as far away



Gary and Irma Timpner

as Pennsylvania, Florida, and South Carolina. They also sell hay to dairy farmers within a 20-mile radius of Pinckneyville.

"You have to rake horse and dairy hay while it still has enough moisture to retain leaves," Gary says. "So we designed a hitch that can pull three or two rakes. It's 33 feet wide with three rakes and 22 feet wide with two rakes."

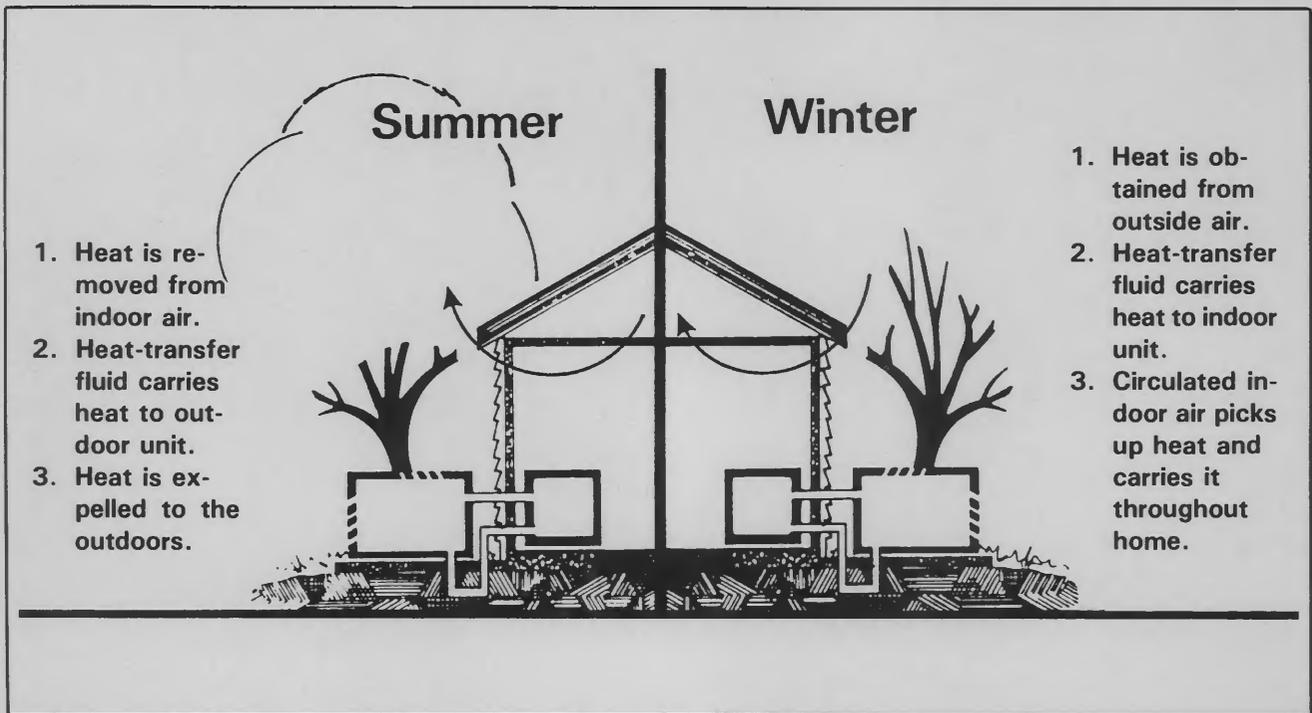
Using an old corn planter frame, scrap pipe, and two old tractor drawbars, the cousins can now rake 40 acres in 1.5 hours. Both hitches are adjustable so they can vary the width and density of windrows.

Besides service on the hospital board, Gary has been a pillar in the St. Paul United Church of Christ (E. and R.) in Pinckneyville. He just completed a term as president of the consistory, or governing board, and has been chairman of numerous committees. He also served two years as superintendent of the Christian board of education.

He served as secretary of both the local Farm Bureau board and Twin County Service Company board, and two terms on the Perry County extension council.

The couple has three daughters: Cynthia Dorris, who earned an MBA degree; Leanna Kellerman, who earned RN and BS in nursing degrees; and Sharon, a graduate student in social work at the University of Illinois. They have one infant granddaughter.

It's Kellerman, though, who pays her father the ultimate compliment: "As a college student, I would depend on him to reassure all my doubts and restore my confidence to become a Registered Nurse," she says. "Today he is still there to provide encouragement and praise when these are desperately needed."



Add a heat pump and save

If you heat with gas or oil and are going to replace your central air unit or are considering the installation of central air in your home, you should consider an add-on heat pump. Egyptian Electric is offering a \$300 rebate to those members who install an add-on heat pump unit in conjunction with their gas or oil furnace. The rebate is also available to new home builders where an add-on heat pump is installed with a gas or oil furnace.

Perhaps you believe your heating system should have provided more heat for the hard-earned money you spent on fuel last winter. Or maybe you're thinking about installing or replacing your central air conditioner. In both cases take a look at the efficient add-on electric heat pump. Only the heat pump can provide year-round living comfort, supplying nearly 80 percent of your home heating needs and all of your cooling requirements.

The heat pump does not produce heat. It simply transfers it. In the winter the pump extracts heat from the cold outside air and pumps it into the house. And it does it efficiently, too. For every kilowatt-hour the pump requires to operate, it produces the equivalent of anywhere from one to three kilowatt-hours in heat, depending upon conditions. That 100 percent to 300 percent

efficiency is the highest of any heating system available, well above the 65 percent seasonal efficiency of the average oil furnace in use.

During the cooling season, the heat pump reverses its cycle and pumps heat outdoors like a conventional air conditioner. And the advantage of its "reverse" is that you don't have to buy a separate unit for cooling.

How do I qualify for the rebate?

If you install an add-on heat pump with a fossil-fueled auxiliary heat system, (fuel oil, propane or natural gas) in your existing or new home, Egyptian Electric will send you a \$300 rebate.

To qualify, contact either the Murphysboro or Steeleville office prior to installation. You will be asked to sign a rebate application and will be given a certification form to give to your heating and air conditioning contractor. When your heating and air conditioning contractor has installed the heat pump, he should send the certification form to Egyptian Electric. Egyptian Electric will then issue a check to you, made out to you and your contractor.

Please contact your nearest cooperative office for any questions you might have. Remember, Egyptian Electric is here to serve you, its members.

Office closings

Our offices will be closed on Friday, April 9, in observance of Good Friday.

Egyptian Messenger

The Egyptian Messenger, published by the Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association, with offices in Steeleville and Murphysboro, providing electric service to Southern Illinois.

From the Manager's Desk

by Harry Kuhn



POLLUTION CREDITS

The subject of pollution credits will be increasingly in the news in the coming months because credits will start trading on the Chicago Board of Trade and utilities will be buying and selling credits and any individual or group can also buy and sell. What it boils down to is that the right to emit a ton of sulfur into the atmosphere can be bought or sold like any other commodity. The question that immediately arises in most people's minds is, "Why are we selling anyone the right to pollute?" The answer is that it is permitted by law, namely the Clean Air Act. How the utilities handle complying with the Clean Air Act is going to affect every consumer who obtains electricity from a coal-fired plant that burns high-sulfur coal. Pollution credits will be utilized in the planning and compliance process.

Actually, the selling of credits allows utilities to plan their least-cost solution to meeting the clear air requirements and somewhat helps the high-sulfur coal mines to stay in operation for a longer period of time. The Clean Air Act is mandating national limits of total sulfur emissions and these emissions are being divided up among utilities based on their emissions during the period of 1985-1987. After each utility is assigned its allotment, it must either stay within that allotment or buy additional allotments from someone else. Whether or not you need to buy an allotment would depend on how you were operating your total generation during the base allotment period.

For example, suppose a utility was able to utilize its total generation capacity for 60 percent of the total hours available during the base assignment period and now because of load growth needs to operate at a 70 percent level. Since the utility would not have enough pollution credits to operate the extra hours, it must either try to buy

the power from someone else, reduce emissions or buy the needed credits from someone else. Assuming the capacity was not available from someone else or the price was not economical, the utility might then look at utilizing low sulfur coal or firing with gas or oil if it was technically or economically feasible. If none of those alternatives are feasible for one reason or another, purchasing credits might be the most economical way to go. The utility would then simply bid on the Board of Trade for the credits it needs to operate its plants at the required level, a credit being the right to emit one ton of sulfur into the atmosphere during a given year.

Buying credits will allow the utility more time to plan for a way to permanently meet the clean air standards and it allows time for better technology to be developed to utilize high sulfur coal. Scrubbers are about the only alternative at the present time, but research is ongoing and delaying a decision may result in a better system and lower costs to the consumer in the long run. What it does for an area such as ours is that it permits a utility to continue to burn high-sulfur coal for all of its generating requirements, because without the credits, the utility may have to buy power from another area or import low-sulfur coal. Either alternative is not attractive to the local coal mining industry. There are those that would argue that utilities should be forced to install scrubbers now and not be able to delay that action with the purchase of credits. I doubt whether you can legally force a utility to install scrubbers under current laws and if utilities cannot buy credits, they may opt for low-sulfur coal.

While buying a credit does in fact allow someone to emit a ton of sulfur in the air, please keep in mind that the Clean Air Act is imposing national limits and those limits will be met. What the Act is saying is that it really does not care what individuals might emit, the group as a whole cannot exceed the limits and it will accomplish the goal of lowering sulfur emissions in this country. Each utility will be required to continuously monitor all of its stacks, so emissions will be tracked at all times and compliance with the law will be monitored and enforced. Nobody is saying that all of this is going to be cheap and there are

(Continued on page 12d)



The Southern Illinois Power Co-operative generating plant is located south of Marion on the Lake of Egypt. The shorter smokestacks are from the first three units, which were built in 1963, and the tall one serves the fourth unit, built in 1978.

Rebates for geothermal, add-on heat pumps

Southern Illinois Power Co-operative's newest unit at its power plant south of Marion is nearly 15 years old, and Egyptian Electric is offering rebates to members who install add-on heat pumps or geothermal heat pumps. While the two might seem unrelated, they're really not.

There are several reasons to encourage members to install such units, according to Tim Reeves, SIPC assistant general manager. "As time goes by," he says, "our members use more and more electricity, and our power plant can only supply so much. If we get into a situation where we have more demand than supply, we'll either have to buy electricity somewhere else, increase our generation capacity, or try demand side management before we reach that point."

With that in mind, the idea behind rebates is to postpone the day when new generation becomes necessary.

Before we get too far along, we should note that there is no new construction planned in the

immediate future, Reeves emphasizes, but SIPC is watching its capacity and load growth carefully to be sure it's not caught short.

Three distribution cooperatives own SIPC, which is a



Tim Reeves, assistant general manager of SIPC, notes that the power co-op has base and intermediate power available, but may need to provide for peaking power in the not-too-distant future.

generation and transmission co-op, or G&T. Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative and Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association are the three owners of SIPC. "Our member-cooperatives are working on power requirements studies," Reeves says, "and our power needs are naturally based on their needs. We'll base our needs on what the member-co-ops project, and we'll decide what to do. I don't see a need for major construction anytime soon, though."

Reeves notes that most electrical systems have three different kinds of generators: base load, intermediate and peaking. The cooperative has four units. Numbers one, two and three are rated at 33 megawatts (MW) each. They were built in 1963. Unit four was completed in 1978, with 173 MW. SIPC's base load is served by the newest unit, which runs constantly. When it doesn't have the capacity on its own, units one, two and three are fired up and put into use. That provides the intermediate load. SIPC doesn't have a peaking plant, and that will be the next type of generation needed by the power cooperative.

Peaking units are used very seldom: perhaps a few hours in the course of a year. They're needed on the very hottest weekdays, when mines and factories are running, people are up and around, and air conditioners are running full blast. They're also needed in the dead of winter, on those bitterly cold days when it's all you can do to keep your home warm no matter what you try.

The problem with peak power is that when we need a lot of electricity, so does everybody else; it's just not there to buy. Fortunately, peaking plants are the least expensive to buy, and take the least time to get "on line." If they have a down side, it's that the electricity from

them is relatively expensive.

"If we build," Reeves says, "we'll probably build a gas or oil-fired combustion turbine unit, or one which will burn either fuel. It won't be very big, and won't add to our manpower needs. We may locate it near the site of the greatest need, rather than at the Marion plant."

But before the plant is given a great deal of priority, rebates are a major part of the plan, and that's why Egyptian Electric is offering them.

"It wasn't all that long ago," Reeves says, "that everybody who generated and sold power thought in terms of the 'supply side.' If people used electricity, you built the capacity to serve it. If your load grew, you built a new plant. You can't do that any more. Plants are incredibly expensive, and they require a lot of antipollution equipment that's also expensive. While interest rates are low now, there were several years where interest expense was a real problem."

Now the "demand side" is getting some attention. The idea of demand side management is to maximize the use of existing power plants, trying to use the power that they generate as efficiently as possible. We're trying

to move usage from on-peak hours to off-peak hours, and from seasonal peak times to non-peak times. If we can accomplish these goals, it will enable the co-op to save money. Since the co-ops are owned by their members and operated on a not-for-profit basis, those savings are passed on to you, the member.

"We hope to encourage those members who don't have air conditioning to look at a heat pump, if they're getting ready to buy. A heat pump is very efficient for heating a home, and does a good job of cooling, too. A geothermal heat pump, while quite a bit more expensive, is better yet. It's the most efficient form of heating and cooling that exists.

"With the rebate program we've got going," he concludes, "we hope to encourage people who need to replace a furnace or air conditioner with a heat pump, which serves as both. We hope that people who are thinking of building a new home will ask their contractor to install a heat pump. We think they'll be good for us and the member."

For more information on the rebates, contact Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association in Steeleville at 965-3434 or in Murphysboro at 684-2143.



SIPC has its headquarters at this newly remodeled and enlarged building near the power plant.

(Continued from page 12a)

no free rides, so we as consumers can expect that our share of the Clean Air Act costs will eventually show up in our power bills. It is not a question of if, but rather a question of when.

1993 CONSTRUCTION

We are now into that time of year when those that are contemplating building a new home start to get excited about starting construction. Assuming we are going to have a typical spring in this area, we will probably have a number of people anxious to get started and ground conditions will be too wet to install underground cable. It happens most years and there is nothing we can do about it. We cannot operate in mud and even if we could, we would wind up tearing up more ground than we can effectively repair and the member would be unhappy with us. We usually get behind a couple of weeks this time of year and all we can do is ask for your patience and understanding until we get over the spring hump.

RIGHT-OF-WAY MAINTENANCE

It is that time of year when we start gearing up for our summer right-of-way maintenance activities and we are again planning to do some mowing and spraying. We recognize that not everyone agrees with some of our methods, but with over 2,000 miles of line of right-of-way to maintain, we have to use methods that are effective and affordable. We do attempt to contact every property owner to explain to them what we plan to do before we actually do the work and we ask for your cooperation in carrying out these necessary activities. We don't cut trees and brush because we like doing it, but we do have an obligation to provide you with the quality of service that you expect and not maintaining right-of-ways is a good way to lower service reliability in a hurry.

Office closing

Our offices will be closed Monday, May 31, in observance of Memorial Day.

How to estimate capital credits

Total margins of \$1,875,528,96 for 1992 have been allocated on the books of Egyptian Electric Cooperative. You may estimate the amount allocated to your capital account as follows:

- Step 1. Add up the total amount paid for energy charges only. Do not include taxes or late payment charges.
- Step 2. Multiply total kwh used in 1992 by .04684032.

- Step 3. Subtract Step 2 from Step 1.
- Step 4. Multiply Step 3 amount by .40020256.

The amount computed in Step 4 represents the total amount of capital credits allocated to your account. To determine the amount of operating margins allocated due to Egyptian Electric's operations, multiply the amount in Step 4 by .597.

Celebrate "Electrical Safety Month" in May!

The calendar tells us it's the month to observe and learn about electrical safety rules. And we offer some tips that you and your family can follow any month of the year.

- Don't restrict air flow around a TV set. It can overheat without proper ventilation.
- Don't put materials that can burn, such as clothing, curtains, paper and flammable liquids, near lamps, heating appliances and hot surfaces.

● Plug in portable appliances only when you intend to use them. Otherwise, keep them disconnected and stored away.

● Keep motors or their protective covers free from lint, dust and dirt so they don't overheat.

There are many more tips to add to the list. Just contact us for additional information on how to make every day and every month time to follow electrical safety rules.

What to do if the power goes off

We offer these suggestions:

1. Check your main fuses or circuit breakers.
2. Check your meter pole. If you have breakers, make sure they are in the "on" position.
3. If you still have no power, check with your neighbors to see if they have power.

4. DURING OFFICE HOURS: (8 a.m. — 4 p.m., Monday through Friday) CALL THE OFFICE NUMBER NEAREST YOU: Steeleville 965-3434 or Murphysboro 684-2143. AFTER OFFICE HOURS: STEELEVILLE AREA — Call 965-3437. If there is a delay, please remain on the line until the call

is answered.

MURPHYSBORO AREA — Call 684-2144.

THERE IS ALWAYS A COMPANY REPRESENTATIVE ON CALL AT ONE OF THESE TWO NUMBERS.

5. Please give the person who answers the member's name as it is billed, and other information requested.

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From the Manager's Desk

by Harry Kuhn



OUTAGE REPORTING

If all goes as planned, we will have changed one of the after-hours telephone numbers by the time you read this. We are going to retain the Murphysboro number, but the Steeleville number will be changed to a toll-free number. Thus, any member that lives outside the area where the Murphysboro number would be a local call will now be able to report an outage or other emergency without incurring a toll charge.

Once the new system is in place and operating satisfactorily, we will be publishing the toll-free number. In the meantime, continue to call the published numbers. Once we actually make the switch, a call to either the regular business number at the Steeleville office or the current outage number, outside of normal business hours, will get you a recording that will give you the toll-free number to call. Once the toll-free number is in operation and you are aware of the number, please use it to report outages or emergencies outside of regular working hours. Members in the Murphysboro local area are encouraged to continue to use that outage number, rather than the 800 number.

Since the Steeleville emergency number is published in a lot of different places and most members have written it in a handy place, we are planning to have a recorded message on that number for at least a year or more. It is probably going to take at least that long to change the number in all of the telephone directories that have our listing. We expect that this change is going to go very smoothly, but if we do run into any unexpected problems, please bear with us. Please be assured that no matter what telephone system we use, someone is always on duty to take emergency calls after-hours. If you get a busy signal, it simply means that someone else is

reporting an outage. We never take the phone off the hook except in those cases where calls are coming in so fast that the person on duty does not have a chance to call out men to correct the problem. In those situations, the person on duty may leave the phone off the hook long enough to go to his or her own personal phone to call out help. We believe it makes more sense to call out help to correct a problem than it does to keep taking calls that are reporting the same problem. It is a case where a person can do only one thing at a time and our goal is to get members back in service as soon as possible. In any event, the phone is off line only a minute or so and a busy signal is better than an unanswered phone because it does tell you that someone is on duty and outages are being reported.

CONSTRUCTION

Ground conditions have not improved and many have worsened, if that is possible, since I wrote in this space last month. Not only do we have mud, we now have water covering some of our service area and it is difficult to get our heavy trucks off the road to do any work. What it means is that we are getting further and further behind on some construction and we will not get to jobs as quick as we normally do because we have a backlog. There is nothing we can do about the weather, so all we can do is grin and bear it and ask for your patience and understanding until we get caught up again.

NEW LOADS

During the 10 years that I have been your manager, loads on the cooperative have been growing very slowly. So slowly, in fact, that with changes in temperatures from one year to the next, it is difficult to tell at times just how much load is really increasing on the system. Several new developments are going to change that picture somewhat in the next two years. With the new Carbondale water treatment plant coming on line this year, the new TESA TUCK plant coming on line in early 1995 and the expansion of the Kinkaid Water District water plant, we are going to see a substantial increase in the kilowatt-hours over the next couple of years. Not only do

those loads represent an increase in sales, but they are the type of load that operate a high percentage of the available hours each month and are the type of load we need on the power plant to make use of capacity over the night hours when other loads drop off. The higher the loads are on the power plant around the clock, the better the fuel efficiency and that translates into lower fuel charges to this cooperative. We are looking forward to these new loads coming on line and helping us improve on our utilization of the power plant's capacity.

A PERSONAL COMMENT

While it hardly seems possible to me, it has been 10 years since I started writing in this space as the manager of your cooperative. It has been a quick 10 years and the only downside aspect, from my point of view, is that I am 10 years older. When I came to work for the cooperative in 1979, I was

way down the list in regard to the age of employees, but I am quickly working my way to the top. We have had a lot of retirees over the last few years and I now have more service time than almost half of the current employees.

If I were to single out what has been most satisfying to me as your manager, it is getting the system in the shape where service reliability has increased and we are positioned to meet your needs in the future. From upgrading the computer system to clearing right-of-ways, we have made a lot of progress in the past 10 years and the member attitude surveys taken by our state association indicate that you also believe we are on the right track.

We hope to continue making improvements in our service to you and while I do not plan to be your manager for another 10 years, you will have my best efforts during the years I have left before retirement.

Nominating Committee appointed

To: Members of Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association

Pursuant to the By-Laws of the Cooperative and in compliance with the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Electrification Administration Revised Bulletin 20-19, notice is hereby given to the members of the Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association that the Cooperative will hold its 55th annual meeting of its members on Thursday evening August 5, 1993, at 7:30 p.m., in the Steeleville American Legion meeting room located on the west side of town and a block south of Broadway.

Notice is further given that the terms of office of directors Harold I. Dycus, Carbondale; Archie Hamilton, Ava; and Raymond Mulholland, Marissa, will expire at said annual meeting.

Notice is further given that the board of directors of the Cooperative have appointed the following named persons as a nominating committee:

Orville Bigham	Pinckneyville
Chester L. Brown	Rockwood
Mary Nell Chew	Carbondale
Bill Kuhnert	Ava
Stuart Langrehr	Evansville
Cyril Miller	Pinckneyville
Melvin Paul	Marissa
Leonard Priebe	Campbell Hill
Mike Robison	Hurst

of the Cooperative, located at the west edge of Steeleville, Illinois, on Monday, June 21, 1993, at 8 p.m., for the purpose of nominating candidates for election to the board of directors, and that all members interested may attend said meeting and participate.

The by-laws also provide that the nominating committee, upon making their nominations, shall prepare and post at the office of the Cooperative, at least 30 days before the annual meeting, a list of nominations for directors.

The by-laws further provide that any 15 or more members may make other nominations in writing over their signature not less than 25 days prior to the meeting. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the meeting.

The by-laws provide that each active member shall be entitled to one vote upon each matter submitted to a vote at the meeting of the members and that proxy voting is prohibited.

A member having questions regarding the above proceedings may contact any officer or member of the board of directors for clarification or further information.

Copies of the by-laws of the Cooperative are available and can be obtained at the Cooperative offices located at Steeleville and Murphysboro, or mailed to you upon your request.

Respectfully submitted,
John E. Steele, Secretary

Notice is further given that the above nominating committee will meet at the Steeleville office



Nine area students got a first-hand look at state government in action on Wednesday, April 21, when they met with Senators Ralph Dunn and Jim Rea and Representatives Gerald Hawkins, Terry Deering, Larry Woolard and David Phelps at the State Capitol in Springfield. The group, which represented Egyptian Electric Cooperative, was part of a contingent of more than 200 students from downstate Illinois who participated in "Illinois Rural Electric and Telephone Youth Day." In addition to meeting with their area legislators, the students also met with Illinois Comptroller Dawn Clark Netsch, who delivered the noon keynote address to the group. The students also toured many of the historic sites of Springfield, including the Old State Capitol, Lincoln's Home and Neighborhood, Lincoln's Tomb and the Illinois Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Representing Egyptian Electric Cooperative were, front row, from left: Sara Pulcher of Ava, Gina McCann of Campbell Hill, Stacy Wettig of Percy, Sandy Pagan of Makanda and Heather Nickel of Carbondale. Back row, from left, are: Brenda Cleland (EEC chaperone), Shawn Stutz of Pinckneyville, Natalie Pape, Rachel McEwen, Rachel Van Sambeek and Carrie Robb, all of Carbondale and Bryce Cramer (EEC chaperone). The day-long activities were sponsored by the electric and telephone cooperatives of Illinois.

Tune up for spring safety!

No musical talent required — just use your common sense and follow a few guidelines to enjoy the coming spring season safely. For example:

- When you use electrical appliances and tools outdoors, make sure they're properly grounded and that your work area is dry.

- Remind your children never to climb utility poles or play near substations, ground-level transformers, or any fence,

building or equipment marked "Danger: High Voltage."

- Don't post or attach signs or announcements to utility poles. They create a safety hazard for personnel who need to climb poles for routine maintenance and repair.

And there's more you can do to tune in to a safe spring season. Simply contact us with your questions.

We'll be happy to advise you.



HAMILTON COUNTY TELEPHONE CO-OP

HIGHWAY 142 EAST DAHLGREN, IL 62828
 TELEPHONE 736-2211 / 643-5110
 1-800-44RURAL

BASIC SERVICES

EXPANDED BASIC	\$19.35	BASIC SERVICE	\$12.95	G1 BASIC	\$8.95	Arts & Entertainment	G1-12
						CNN	G1-07
						Country Music Television	G1-13
						Discovery	G1-22
						ESPN	G1-09
						Family Channel	G1-11
						Headline News	G1-08
						Nashville Network	G1-02
						USA	G1-21
						WGN	G1-03
EXPANDED BASIC	\$19.35	BASIC SERVICE	\$12.95	G1 BASIC	\$8.95	WTBS	G1-18
						KTVT	S3-05
						Learning Channel	F1-02
						Lifetime	G3-20
						Nickelodeon	G3-19
						Nostalgia	F4-21
						Travel Channel	F1-09
						Weather Channel	G3-13
						WPIX	S3-09
						Black Entertainment	F1-20
						MTV	G3-17
						Prime Network	T3-17
						VH-1	G3-15
						WABC	F2-04
						WBBM	F2-02
WXIA	F2-12						
WSBK	S3-03						
WWOR	G1-15						

Any Basic without ESPN \$1.00 Less

PREMIUM SERVICES

PT24	WABC - New York	F2-04
\$3.95	WBBM - Chicago	F2-02
	WXIA - Atlanta	F2-12

SKYLINE	KTLA - Los Angeles	S3-15
\$3.00	WSBK - Boston	S3-03
	WWOR - New York	G1-15

NETLINK	KCNC - Denver	F2-22
\$5.95	KMGH - Denver	F2-03
	KRMA - Denver	F2-18
	KUSA - Denver	F2-01
	KWGN - Denver	F2-17

HBO	East	G1-23
\$7.95	West	F1-13

CINEMAX	East	G1-19
\$7.95	West	F1-23

SHOWTIME	East	G1-05
\$7.95	West	G1-16

MOVIE CHANNEL	East	G1-10
\$7.95	West	G1-14

DISNEY	East	G1-04
\$7.95	West	G1-24

SSN	Home Team Sports, HSE, KBL, MSG, Midwest Sports, Pass, Pacific Sports, Prime Network, Prime Sports NW, Prime Sports, Prime Ticket, Sport South Sunshine Network	
\$8.55		

Any two of
 HBO, Cinemax, Showtime, Movie Channel, or Disney
 \$14.95

Any three: \$20.95; Any four: \$27.95; All five: \$33.95

What to do if the power goes off

We offer these suggestions:

1. Check your main fuses or circuit breakers.
2. Check your meter pole. If you have breakers, make sure they are in the "on" position.
3. If you still have no power, check with your neighbors to see if they have power.

4. DURING OFFICE HOURS: (8 a.m. — 4 p.m., Monday through Friday) CALL THE OFFICE NUMBER NEAREST YOU: Steeleville 965-3434 or Murphysboro 684-2143. AFTER OFFICE HOURS: STEELEVILLE AREA — Call 965-3437. If there is a delay, please remain on the line until the call

is answered.

MURPHYSBORO AREA — Call 684-2144.

THERE IS ALWAYS A COMPANY REPRESENTATIVE ON CALL AT ONE OF THESE TWO NUMBERS.

5. Please give the person who answers the member's name as it is billed, and other information requested.

Egyptian Messenger

The Egyptian Messenger, published by the Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association, with offices in Steeleville and Murphysboro, providing electric service to Southern Illinois.

From the Manager's Desk

by Harry Kuhn



OUTAGE REPORTING

If you called the Steeleville outage number recently, you know by now that we have changed the Steeleville outage reporting number to a toll-free 800 number. Along with the change in the telephone number, we have also switched to an answering service that will take our outage calls for us. It is a full-time, 24-hour-a-day answering service, so about the only change you will probably notice is that if you have to call us at 2 a.m., you are going to get someone who is awake and on duty as opposed to rousting a staff member out of bed.

As with any new procedure, it will take the answering service a little time to become totally familiar with our system, so they may ask you a few more questions than a staff member might. However, with time they will become familiar with our mapping system and will know the questions to ask to locate your service and to isolate the problem. As always, whether it is our staff or them answering the phone, it is really helpful to the person on duty if you know your account number because that is also your location number and it saves having to look it up in the alphabetical listing.

We have put a recorder on the old 965-3437 Steeleville number that gives you the message to call 800-606-1505 and we will leave that number in service with a recorder for at least a year. With it being published and written down in so many places, it is going to take some time to get switched over to using the toll-free number for outage reporting. We are retaining the 684-2144 outage number in the Murphysboro area and we are asking those of you who can call that number without a toll charge to continue using it for outage reporting. The reason for retaining that number is that in the event of major problems all

over the system, we can take over the phones ourselves. The system can be split whereby calls in the Murphysboro-Carbondale area would be answered at the Murphysboro office and the north half of the system would be answered in the Steeleville office. Regardless of which number you choose to use, every member should now be able to report an outage or other emergency without incurring a toll charge.

As I have mentioned on other occasions, when a storm rolls through our system like it did on Monday night, May 10, we are going to have a considerable amount of trouble and the outage line will be constantly busy. If you find that to be the case and you know that your neighbors are also out of service, chances are that we already know that you do not have electrical service and we will get to it in time. If you are the only one in your area without service, you need to keep trying because the only way we will know about individual outages is if you tell us.

Through the miracle of modern electronics, more sophisticated equipment is being developed all the time and once all telephone exchanges are electronic and everyone has true touch tone dialing, we may be able to install equipment that will take a large number of calls at one time. It will then be simply a matter of your calling the outage number and punching your location number into the computer that answers the phone. The computer would then assemble the data as the calls are coming in and inform the person on outage duty as to what lines or individuals are out of service. Actually, computer answering equipment that will do much of this is already available, but it is still fairly costly and does not always work properly where there is not true touch tone dialing.

I am aware of one cooperative in the state that utilizes a computer system to answer the phone, but it is based on phone numbers and each member's phone number must be entered into the computer. That presents a problem because it is not possible to obtain every member's phone number and not all members have phones. It also creates a file maintenance problem. A system based on location numbers would be totally accurate because every service has a location

number and it is already in the computer and is updated automatically. It would require that every member reporting an outage would have to know his or her location number, but you see it on your bill each month as the account number and all you need to do is keep that number near your telephone in case you need to report an outage or other emergency.

ANNUAL MEETING

It is getting to that time of year when we begin making preparations for the annual meeting and I want to take this opportunity to tell you that the annual meeting will be held August 5, 1993, at the Steeleville American Legion Hall. Mark your calendars now because the next issue will contain the official notice and we do not want you to miss

the meeting in the event you receive your notice late. Delivery of the magazine has been timely, but there is always a chance of someone's issue being delivered late, so I am giving you an extra month's forewarning.



Office closing

Our offices will be closed Monday, July 5, in observance of Independence Day.



Six outstanding area students represented Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association in the nation's capital during a week-long tour in June. The six were grand prize winners in the cooperative's "Youth to Washington" essay contest. From left are: Harry Kuhn, manager; Sara Pulcher of Ava; Jill Blankenship and Heather Nickel, both of Carbondale; Shawn Stutz, Pinckneyville; Rachel Van Sambeek and Rachel McEwen, both of Carbondale; and Archie Hamilton, EECA president. The six high school students were selected at Egyptian Electric's essay banquet on Tuesday, May 11, in Carbondale. Judges at the event were Richard Johnston, publisher of the Southern Illinois newspaper; Dr. James Tyrell, director of the Center for Environmental Health and Safety, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale; and John Freitag, assistant to the manager at the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives. The area students toured the nation's capital on June 18-25 with some 70 students representing other Illinois electric cooperatives. The students representing EECA researched and wrote essays on the subject "Recycling: Is it working?"

Y'all Come!!

**Egyptian Electric
Cooperative
Association**



**55th
Annual
Meeting**

**August 5, 1993
7:30 p.m.**

**American Legion Hall
South Chester Street
Steeleville, Illinois**

**Registration begins at 6 p.m.
Short business meeting**

**55th
Anniversary
gift**

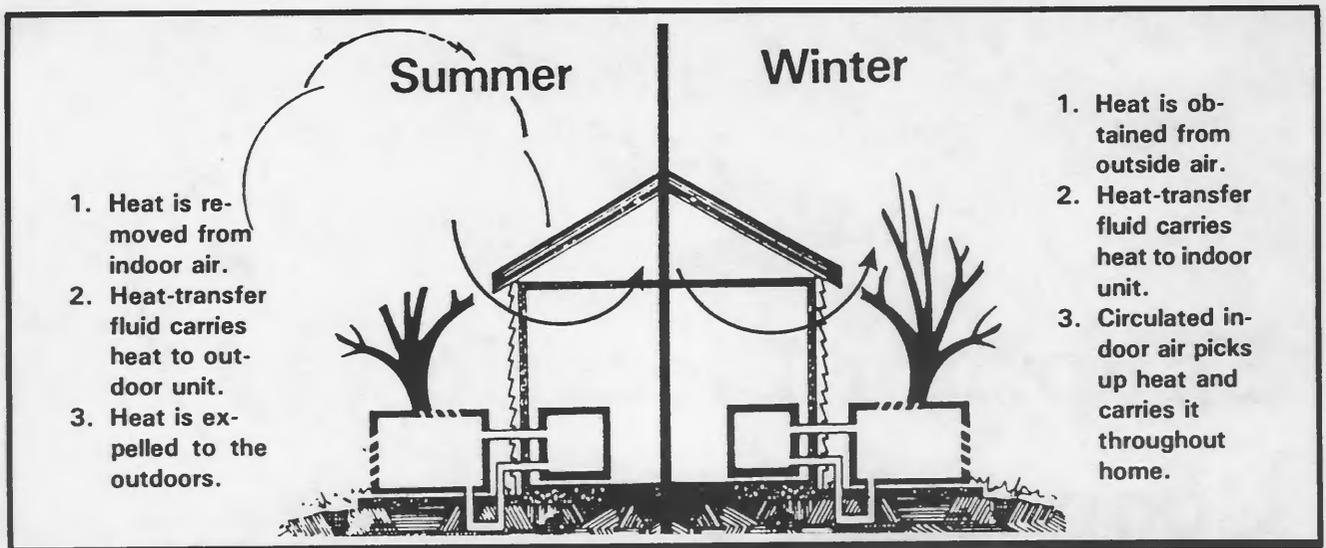
Refreshments

**Attendance
gift**

**Guest
Speaker**

**10 "early bird" prizes
\$20 electric credits**

**2 grand prizes
\$100 electric credits**



1. Heat is removed from indoor air.
2. Heat-transfer fluid carries heat to outdoor unit.
3. Heat is expelled to the outdoors.

1. Heat is obtained from outside air.
2. Heat-transfer fluid carries heat to indoor unit.
3. Circulated indoor air picks up heat and carries it throughout home.

Add a heat pump and save

If you heat with gas or oil and are going to replace your central air unit or are considering the installation of central air in your home, you should consider an add-on heat pump. Egyptian Electric is offering a \$300 rebate to those members who install an add-on heat pump unit in conjunction with their gas or oil furnace. The rebate is also available to new home builders where an add-on heat pump is installed with a gas or oil furnace.

Perhaps you believe your heating system should have provided more heat for the hard-earned money you spent on fuel last winter. Or maybe you're thinking about installing or replacing your central air conditioner. In both cases take a look at the efficient add-on electric heat pump. Only the heat pump can provide year-round living comfort, supplying nearly 80 percent of your home heating needs and all of your cooling requirements.

The heat pump does not produce heat. It simply transfers it. In the winter the pump extracts heat from the cold outside air and pumps it into the house. And it does it efficiently, too. For every kilowatt-hour the pump requires to operate, it produces the equivalent of anywhere from one to three kilowatt-hours in heat, depending upon conditions. That 100 percent to 300 percent

efficiency is the highest of any heating system available, well above the 65 percent seasonal efficiency of the average oil furnace in use.

During the cooling season, the heat pump reverses its cycle and pumps heat outdoors like a conventional air conditioner. And the advantage of its "reverse" is that you don't have to buy a separate unit for cooling.

How do I qualify for the rebate?

If you install an add-on heat pump with a fossil-fueled auxiliary heat system, (fuel oil, propane or natural gas) in your existing or new home, Egyptian Electric will send you a \$300 rebate.

To qualify, contact either the Murphysboro or Steeleville office prior to installation. You will be asked to sign a rebate application and will be given a certification form to give to your heating and air conditioning contractor. When your heating and air conditioning contractor has installed the heat pump, he should send the certification form to Egyptian Electric. Egyptian Electric will then issue a check to you, made out to you and your contractor.

Please contact your nearest cooperative office for any questions you might have. Remember, Egyptian Electric is here to serve you, its members.

What to do if the power goes off

We offer these suggestions:

1. Check your main fuses or circuit breakers.
2. Check your meter pole. If you have breakers, make sure they are in the "on" position.
3. If you still have no power, check with your neighbors to see if they have power.
4. DURING OFFICE HOURS: (8 a.m. -4 p.m., Monday through Friday) CALL THE OFFICE NUMBER NEAREST YOU: Steeleville 965-3434 or Murphysboro 684-2143.
5. AFTER OFFICE HOURS: STEELEVILLE AREA — Call 1-800-606-1505

MURPHYSBORO AREA — Call 684-2144.

SOMEONE IS ALWAYS ON DUTY TO TAKE EMERGENCY CALLS AFTER HOURS.

5. Please give the person who answers the member's name as it is billed, and other information requested.

Egyptian Messenger

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Invitation to the annual meeting from the board of directors



Hamilton

On behalf of the board of directors of Egyptian Electric Cooperative, I extend a personal invitation to attend your cooperative's 55th annual meeting. The meeting will be held at Steeleville's American Legion Hall on Thursday, August 5, 1993. The hall is air-conditioned and has been very comfortable the past annual meetings in spite of the summer heat.

Registration will begin at 6 p.m., and each member registering will receive an attendance gift. All members registered by 7:30 p.m. will be included in the drawing for 10 "early bird" prizes, which will be \$20 credits to be applied on an electric bill. At the conclusion of the meeting, all members present will be eligible for the drawing of other attendance prizes as well as the two grand prizes of a \$100 credit to be applied to an electric bill. There will also be a drawing for the Anniversary prize, which will be a 20-inch color TV.

As in the past few years, we are planning a very short business meeting to conduct the necessary business affairs of the cooperative, and we will conclude the meeting with Wayne Humphreys as our guest speaker. Additional information on Mr. Humphreys is included elsewhere in this section. His presentation has been well received by many annual meeting groups, and I believe you will also enjoy him.

From past experience, the most effective method of getting word to the members about the annual meeting is for those reading this announcement to tell others about the meeting. Please help us out and remind your friends and neighbors about the annual meeting. Better yet, bring them with you and let's have a big turnout. This is your opportunity to participate in the operation of your cooperative, and we promise to keep the meeting short and get you home at a reasonably early hour.

**Archie Hamilton, President
Board of Directors**

Official Notice

Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association

**55th Annual Meeting
August 5, 1993 7:30 p.m.**

**American Legion Hall
South Chester Street
Steeleville, Illinois**

Action will be taken on the following matters:

1. Report on the number of members present, in order to determine the existence of a quorum.
2. Reading of the notice of the meeting and proof of the due publication or mailing thereof, or the waiver or waivers of notice of the meeting as the case may be.
3. Reading of unapproved minutes of previous meeting of the members and the taking of necessary action thereon.
4. Presentation and consideration of reports of officers, trustees and committees.
5. Election of board members.
6. Unfinished business.
7. New business.
8. Adjournment.

**John E. Steele, Secretary
Board of Directors
Egyptian Electric Cooperative**

From the Manager's Desk

by Harry Kuhn



STORM DAMAGE

June was a rough month for Southern Illinois with regard to severe weather, with a great deal of damage occurring in the southern counties. There were a great number of trees blown over and the resulting damage to power lines was both severe and widespread. The worst storm hit on Friday morning and it wasn't until the next Wednesday that electric was restored to all customers.

We fared pretty well in comparison to the cooperatives to the south and east of us. While we did have a number of outages on Friday and several more the next week when an isolated storm rolled through south of Carbondale, we were able to restore service in a reasonable amount of time, considering the circumstances. The biggest problem we had during this period of storms was the loss of the Grassy Substation, which serves the southeastern portion of our system. Lightning apparently struck the station and one voltage regulator was burned out and there was other arcing damage inside the station. All three 69,000-volt fuses in the station were blown, which meant that around \$1,000 went up in smoke in a matter of a second or two. We have our stations well protected with lightning arrestors and this kind of damage does not happen too often, but when it does, it is expensive and a large number of members are affected by the outage.

Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, which is located immediately south of us, was very hard hit by the storm and requested assistance from other cooperatives in the state. We loaned them two of our crews and two digger-derrick units, as well as our contract tree trimming crew and the contract pole changeout crew. While it does make us a little short handed in situations such as this, the cooperatives have to rely on each other when disasters such as this strike. We had to ask for outside help in July of 1980 when the big windstorm hit our system and, if a similar situation should arise again, we can expect that our fellow cooperatives will again respond to our needs. With 26 cooperatives spread across the state, there are usually enough that are not affected by any one natural disaster so that they can come to the assistance of those who have been hit. We have a statewide emergency work plan and it has been tested many times and does work very well. We,

of course, hope that we never have to use it again, but it is reassuring to know that help is there if we need it.

OUTAGE CALLS

When outages occur, such as in early June, and we have a station out of service or major feeders locked out, many members are affected and most are trying to contact us by phone. Let me stress again that we are manning the outage phone at all times, but the sheer volume of calls will have the line tied up continuously. If everyone knew his account number, several calls could be handled in a minute's time, but such is usually not the case. A more typical situation is where the person on outage duty has to get the correct spelling of the person reporting the outage and then look that name up in the alphabetical listing to make sure we have him or her listed as a member. Sometimes the name is not listed and after further discussion we discover that the person calling is sharing a residence with someone else and the service is in the other person's name. All kinds of situations arise where it takes time to verify where the outage is located and the end result is that you may average a phone call a minute. A minute does not seem like much, but if you can only take 60 calls an hour and there are hundreds of members out of service, someone is going to get a busy signal when they try calling.

As I said last month, when your service is off and you know that all your neighbors are in the same situation and the outage line is busy, you can be pretty safe in assuming that we are already aware of the problem. If you happen to know where the problem is or there is a hazardous situation involving a power line, keep trying to get through.

ANNUAL MEETING

This issue contains the official notice for the annual meeting and by the time you read this, the meeting should be a matter of days away. I encourage you to read the notice and to plan to attend the meeting. As usual, we are planning a short business meeting and will have an entertaining guest speaker and the usual attendance prizes. The hall is air conditioned, so plan to spend a little time with us on August 5, 1993. It is your meeting, so it is no meeting without you.

Add a heat pump and save

An electric heat pump can save you money and earn you a rebate. Contact Egyptian Electric Cooperative for details.

Minutes of the Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee, in compliance with the by-laws of the Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association, met in Steeleville, Illinois, in the office of the Cooperative, on June 21, 1993, at 8 p.m., to nominate candidates for the office of director of the Cooperative to serve for a three-year term and to be voted upon by the membership of the Cooperative in its annual meeting to be held on August 5, 1993, in the Steeleville American Legion Hall.

Attorney William Broom opened the meeting by stating that the purpose of the Nominating Committee is to nominate candidates for the office of director of the Cooperative, and that the terms of Mr. Harold I. Dycus, Mr. Archie Hamilton, and Mr. Raymond Mulholland were expiring this year.

A roll call of the members of the Nominating Committee was taken, and all members were present.

Attorney Broom stated that the first order of business would be to select a chairman and a secretary of the meeting.

Mr. Bill Kuhnert was duly selected as chairman of the Committee, and Mr. William Broom was selected as secretary of the meeting.

The chairman requested the secretary to read the

minutes of last year's Nominating Committee meeting.

The chairman instructed the committee that three or more nominations could be made by the Committee and placed on the ballot. Following a discussion on this, it was unanimously agreed to nominate three candidates.

Mr. Melvin Paul nominated Mr. Raymond Mulholland, Mr. Mike Robison nominated Mr. Harold Dycus, and Mr. Chester Brown nominated Mr. Archie Hamilton. Mrs. Mary Nell Chew moved that the nominations be closed and that they be nominated by acclamation, and that their names be placed on the ballot to be voted upon at the annual meeting of the members on August 5, 1993.

Motion was seconded by Mr. Stuart Langrehr, and unanimously carried.

There being no further business, motion was duly made and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

Bill Kuhnert, Chairman

Michael D. Robison

Chester Brown

Cyril J. Miller

Melvin L. Paul

Orville R. Bigham

Leonard A. Priebe

Stuart J. Langrehr

Mary Nell Chew

Annual meeting registration instructions: last name please

The membership will be divided alphabetically, by the last name. There will be two lines immediately inside the entrance doors for registering members. Be sure that you get in the correct line, as it speeds up registering and keeps the line moving. Members must be registered by 7:30 p.m. to qualify for the "early bird" prizes. Registration will begin as early as 6 p.m.

Entrance to the hall will be through the double doors on the south side, from the walkway between the Legion Hall and the bowling alley building. Access to this walkway is from the front parking lot towards the bowling alley, or from the west parking lot behind the ball diamond. These entrances will be clearly marked, and Cooperative employees will be located around the area to help direct you to the meeting. The club room doors will be locked, so there will be no entering from the club room.

Wayne Humphreys is guest speaker at annual meeting

Wayne Humphreys owns and operates a family century farm that is big enough his wife has to work in town. Agricultural professionals all across the nation find it so easy to identify with Wayne's humor. This is no time for a Pollyanna speaker in agriculture, but it is a great time to let America's farmers up for a breath of fresh air and a laugh. Wayne combines his farmer's pride with today's realities and his audiences love it. One man told a state convention planner, "The only reason I came is to hear Wayne again."

Growing up on a grain and livestock farm gives a fellow heavy doses of common sense. "Sometimes it just pays to know which side of the post to put the wire on." He became a champion public speaker and went on to be elected national vice president of the FFA. Wayne graduated from college but he got over it. He came home to farm, raise a family, and continue bringing smiles and laughter to 100's of events as a professional speaker.

Wayne's speech is only part of the message. From the

(Continued on page 12d)

55th Anniversary prize — 20-inch color TV with remote

Early Bird Prize

10 Credits for \$20
on Electric Bills

Annual Meeting Grand Prizes

Two \$100 Credits
on Electric Bills

Free Gift

To Each Registered Member

Drawing for Attendance Prizes — (Must be present to win prizes)

(Continued from page 12c)

time he walks in the door you will marvel at the number of people he meets and talks with. Faces light up after he stops to chat and gets acquainted. Wayne is a successful speaker because he becomes a part of the group. Wayne's favorite message to his fellow farmers is fun. "Have you ever felt like the only things you can afford are what no one else wants?" He makes fun of his own operations, machinery, bulls, salesmen, and neighbors. Then in the end he helps us realize we are all in this thing called life together and we all deserve a "kind

word" once in a while. You can never get hurt saying "thank you." There are people in our day who need to know they make a difference in our life. When was the last time you stopped the combine to climb over the fence and tell your little boy you loved him?

Wayne's humor and vitality make him one of the busiest speakers on the agricultural meeting circuit today. You'll be delighted with Wayne Humphreys as a speaker who knows the difference between a 4010 and a 1040.



Seven students representing Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association on the 1993 Youth to Washington Tour witnessed their government in action during the week of June 18, meeting with Congressman Jerry F. Costello of Belleville in the nation's capital. The students were part of a contingent of 66 outstanding rural youth leaders from downstate Illinois who participated in the annual tour of Washington, D.C., sponsored by the electric and telephone cooperatives of Illinois. From left are Heather Nickel of Carbondale, Shawn Stutz of Pinckneyville, Congressman Costello, Rachel McEwen of Carbondale, Sara Pulcher of Ava, Jill Blankenship and Rachel Van Sambeek of Carbondale and Stacy Wettig of Percy. During the week-long trip to the nation's capital the students visited the National Cathedral, U.S. Capitol, Smithsonian museums, George Washington's home at Mount Vernon, Supreme Court, the Bureau of Engraving, Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, National Geographic Society headquarters and a host of memorials and monuments. They also attended a performance at Ford's Theatre and were greeted by foreign diplomats during a reception at the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia. En route to Washington, D.C., they toured the Civil War battlefields at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

What to do if the power goes off

We offer these suggestions:

1. Check your main fuses or circuit breakers.
2. Check your meter pole. If you have breakers, make sure they are in the "on" position.
3. If you still have no power, check with your neighbors to see if they have power.

4. DURING OFFICE HOURS: (8 a.m. -4 p.m., Monday through Friday)
CALL THE OFFICE NUMBER NEAREST YOU: Steeleville 965-3434 or Murphysboro 684-2143.

AFTER OFFICE HOURS:
STEELEVILLE AREA — Call
1-800-606-1505

MURPHYSBORO AREA — Call
684-2144.

SOMEONE IS ALWAYS ON DUTY
TO TAKE EMERGENCY CALLS
AFTER HOURS.

5. Please give the person who answers the member's name as it is billed, and other information requested.

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From the Manager's Desk

by Harry Kuhn



FLOOD WATERS

As I write this article, our electrical system has been somewhat affected by the flood waters and we have between 75 and 100 meters out of service due to high water. The Kaskaskia Island levee has failed, but at this time the Prairie Du Rocher levee and the levee below Rockwood are still holding and we have a number of lines and services in those areas.

Some of you may not be aware that your cooperative does serve Kaskaskia Island, but it is in fact part of our service area. Egyptian Electric is probably unique among cooperatives in that we have to go through another state to get to a part of our service area which is a part of the state in which the cooperative is headquartered. We do not have any lines across the Mississippi to provide power to the Island, so we purchase our wholesale power needs from Citizens Electric in Missouri. We take delivery in St. Mary's and run a line over the levee into the Island. Since they closed the bridge at Chester, we made arrangements with Citizens to handle any problems on the Island for us and when the levee broke, we asked them to interrupt all service to the Island by opening the switches at St. Mary's. Once the levee broke, we did not want to take any chances with having anyone getting into our primary lines with evacuation boats and the safest approach was to interrupt service to the entire Island. At that point, no one was in a position to use electricity very much longer anyway and the safety of those evacuating was the paramount concern.

If more levees break, we will probably have to interrupt service to other areas and leave it off until it is safe to re-energize. Once the flood waters go down, it will probably be a slow process getting everyone back on. We will probably disconnect every individual service once we are able to get

back into the flooded areas and then put each service back on as the member requests to be reconnected. Hopefully, the flooding will not have damaged our lines to any great extent, but as levees break and water rushes in there is always the risk that floating trees or other debris might break a pole or tear a line down. If poles are down in mud and water, it is going to be a problem getting to them to restore service. We realize that everyone that has been flooded out of their homes will want to get back in as soon as possible to start cleanup and we will do everything we can to get service restored as soon as they need it. We hope, however, that they will understand if we are not always able to have their electricity back on as soon as they can utilize it.

GROUND SOURCE HEAT PUMPS

From time to time I have mentioned ground source heat pumps as a highly efficient means of heating and cooling a home and this magazine has carried other information of this type of system. Bryce Cramer, our Murphysboro office manager, installed such a system in his new home and has put together operating information that might be of interest to you, especially if you are planning to build a new home. Elsewhere in this section is an article prepared by Bryce and I encourage you to read it.

CAPITAL CREDITS

We need your help. Elsewhere in this section is a list of names of people we are unable to find in order to refund capital credits they have coming. If you know these people, or their heirs, let us know. We will be publishing a list each month until we get through the entire alphabet.

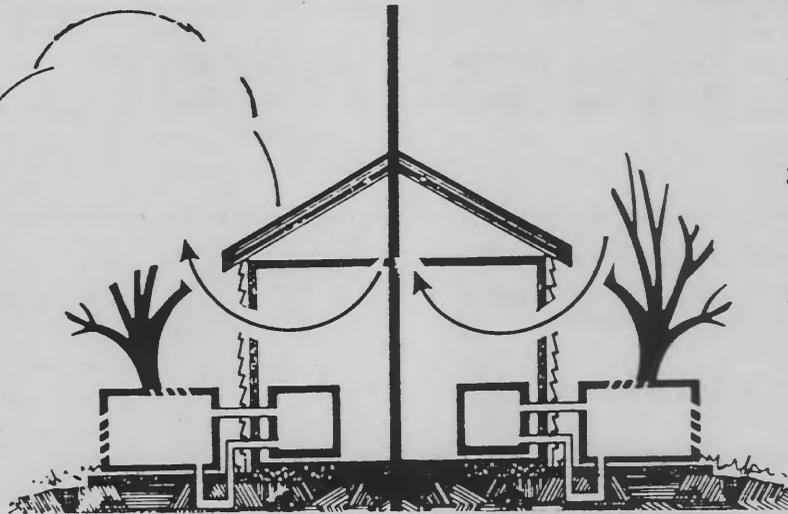


Office closing

Our offices will be closed Monday, September 6, in observance of Labor Day.

Summer

1. Heat is removed from indoor air.
2. Heat-transfer fluid carries heat to outdoor unit.
3. Heat is expelled to the outdoors.



Winter

1. Heat is obtained from outside air.
2. Heat-transfer fluid carries heat to indoor unit.
3. Circulated indoor air picks up heat and carries it throughout home.

Ground source heat pump follow-up

by Bryce Cramer

As some of you may remember, in February 1992 a WaterFurnace open house was held at my partially completed home. As my wife and I have lived in the home for a little over a year now, I thought some of you might be interested in how the geothermal heat pump has performed.

The cape-cod style house has 1,800 feet upstairs with a full basement that is heated and cooled to the same levels as the upstairs. It has 2 x 6 walls with R-19 fiberglass insulation, ½ inch R-max boxing and Amoco brand house wrap infiltration barrier. The attic has two rows of R-19 fiberglass insulation perpendicular to each other. The basement is a walk-out facing south, with 2 x 4 studded walls and R-11 fiberglass insulation.

The windows upstairs constitute 7.33 percent of the wall surface. This is slightly less than the recommended maximum of 10 to 12 percent, but as the living room window is 4 x 9, and the dining room has a 5-foot atrium door, the living area of the house is well lit. The windows are double-pane, low "e," argon filled, and wood frame.

The house was built using new framing techniques for corners and partition posts. All wall plate penetrations were caulked and there is a visqueen vapor barrier on all walls and the ceiling. In August, a representative with the Illinois Department of Energy and Natural Resources performed a blower door test on the house. This test checks the air infiltration of the house by creating a vacuum in the house and testing the pressure

differences. This house tested to have a .107 percent air change rate per hour. In the past, energy auditors were happy to achieve a .50 percent rate.

As seen in figure 1, this house, with two adults living in it, used 12,790 kwh's during the year April 1992 to March 1993. The thermostat set point during the winter months was 69 degrees and 76 degrees during the summer months. Based on the Cooperative's rates, this home cost \$994.73 for electric service (or \$82.89 per month). This house has all electric appliances, including a WaterFurnace geothermal heat pump, water heater, clothes dryer, stove, dishwasher, deep freeze, self-defrosting refrigerator, and an apartment size refrigerator. It also has a jet air septic system that has a one/sixth horse motor that runs an average of 12 hours per day.

One question I have been asked several times is, "How much it cost to heat this house?" During the months of November 1992 to April 1993, a total of 7,312 kwh's were used. By looking at months where no heat or cooling were used, we can establish a base load. (Base load is the normal amount of energy used for cooking, clothes washing, hot water, lighting, etc.) Anything above this base load amount was used to heat or cool the home. As May 1993 was 753 kwh's, 750 kwh's times six months would be 4,500 kwh's base load. Subtracting this from the total kwh's used leaves 2,812 kwh's for heating during this period. Using the Cooperative's final block rate of \$.0546 per

kwh, (\$.052 plus IPU tax) gives a heating cost of \$153.53 for this home.

To calculate the cooling costs, we would use the four cooling months of June through September. During this period, 4,034 kwh's were used. Again, subtracting the base load of 3,000 kwh's (750 times 4) leaves 1,034 kwh's for cooling, or \$56.46.

We may also want to look at what the temperatures were during this period. I have been charting the daily high and low temperature since 1984, based on data furnished by the southeast sewage treatment plant at Carbondale, a national weather reporting station. From these temperatures, I calculate heating and cooling degree days, which give an indication of the average temperature during a given period. During the heating season in question, we experienced a total of 4,613 heat degree days. The average since 1984 during these months was 4,249, so the average temperature during this period was approximately 9 percent colder than normal. The cooling days during the four summer months was 865, with the past average being 1,145, or a 24 percent decrease in average temperature.

Applying this information to the operating costs incurred, I would anticipate that heating costs would, on average, be 10 percent less than the \$153.53 experienced, and cooling costs would be 25 percent higher than the actual cost of \$56.46. The weather adjusted heating costs for this home would be \$140 and the cooling cost would be \$70, for a total space conditioning cost of \$210 or \$.575 per day.

Although low operating costs are nice, the comfort level provided by the equipment must also be satisfactory, or it is not a good system. This level of comfort was of utmost importance for me when deciding on an HVAC system, as my wife is very cold natured and heat pumps do not deliver the air at as high a temperature as a gas furnace does. Our prior home had forced air gas heat and she was used to turning the thermostat up in the morning so she could feel hot air blowing out of the register when she got out of the shower.

What we have found, is that the heat pump actually has given us a greater level of comfort

than the gas furnace. As we leave the thermostat set at the same temperature, the house is warm and cozy when we get up. Also, we do not contend with the wild temperature swings that the gas heat had. At the other house, when we sat watching television, we would get cold, so we would pull an afghan around us. About that time, the furnace would kick on, the temperature would rise because of the hot air and we would have to kick the afghan off. Five minutes after the furnace had shut down, we would be pulling the afghan backup, and that's how it would be all evening. With the geothermal heat pump though, the temperatures in the house have been very even. Because the air that comes out of the register is more moderate, the temperature swings (if any) that do occur have very low peaks and valleys and the time from a peak to a valley is quite long, making for a very even heat. In fact, the thermostat for the Water-Furnace unit has a digital thermometer on it and during this past winter, I never saw it vary from the temperature that we had it set at.

I suppose that by now you realize that I am very satisfied with our heating and cooling system. After evaluating the unit now for a year, I would not change anything about the system, and if I were to begin building another home tomorrow, you can rest assured that it also would have a geothermal heat pump in it.

If you are considering building a new home or retrofitting your existing home or heating system, consider the geothermal heat pump. Anyone interested in seeing my system is always welcome to stop in. Also, I am more than happy to explain some of the different construction techniques that I used. Although our home is very energy efficient, I did not use materials or techniques that are outlandish or that any contractor or individual could not do.

Remember, that as a service for you, the Cooperative will do heat/loss gain studies that are used to properly size equipment for you. We can also estimate operating costs for different types of equipment so that you can make educated decisions when looking for an HVAC system for your home.

What to do if the power goes off

We offer these suggestions:

1. Check your main fuses or circuit breakers.
2. Check your meter pole. If you have breakers, make sure they are in the "on" position.
3. If you still have no power, check with your neighbors to see if they have power.

4. DURING OFFICE HOURS: (8 a.m. -4 p.m., Monday through Friday)
CALL THE OFFICE NUMBER
NEAREST YOU: Steeleville 965-3434
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MURPHYSBORO AREA — Call
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SOMEONE IS ALWAYS ON DUTY
TO TAKE EMERGENCY CALLS
AFTER HOURS.

5. Please give the person who answers the member's name as it is billed, and other information requested.

Do you know these people?

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Ackerman, Henry
Aitken, Emerson
Allen, Clifford
Anderson, A.H.
Anderson, Charles
Anghouse, Roxie
Arbeiter, Arthur
Baird, Marshall
Bame, Paul & Rose
Baysinger, Joe
Beard, Henderson
Beck, William
Beckman, Mrs. Clara
Beckman, H.F.
Behnken, Ernest L.
Bernasek, Stanley
Berneking, Ella
Birchler, Alex
Birchler, Frank
Birchler, Joseph
Bittner, Stewart
Blair, Inez
Bleem, Henry
Bleem, Joe
Bleem, Roman
Blind, Mrs. Will
Bockhorn, Martha
Bodeker, Hilda
Bollman, Herman C.
Born, Peter
Botterbusch, E.J.
Bower, Grover L.
Braden, Charles
Bradley, C.L.
Bradshaw, Hurdy
Brase, Ben
Breedon, Joseph
Brenning, Elmer
Brenning, Henry
Breithaupt, Carl
Bright, Calvin R.M.
Brush, Charles F.
Buch, Ferdinand
Buch, Herman
Bunselmeyer, Fre
Bunselmeyer, Myrtle
Bunte, William
Burris, Mrs. B.D.
Burrrough, Walter
Butler, Frank
Byerley, Dennis
Campbell, Thomas
Campbell, W.R.
Carruthers, H.V.
Carruthers, Jack
Cathcart, Thomas
Charles, John
Christie, J.O.
Clark, Harry
Calunch, Eva
Coffer, E.C.
Colvis, Harry
Crews, Stanley
Darnstaedt, John
Dearing, Stanley
Deichmann, Lena
Detgen, Clarence
Dickey, Lawrence
Dietrich, Arthur
Dietz, Ernest
Dietz, L.A.
Dietz, Louis
Dinges, Hugo
Doak, John
Doerr, Arthur
Doiron, Harry
Dunhouse, Tony
Eastman, Henry
Ebers, Albert W.

Eckert, Dora
Ederer, George
Edmiston, Harry
Eggemeyer, Martin
Eggemeyer, Richard
Eicher, Mrs. H.A.
Eilers, Herman
Eisenhauer, Herman
Emling, Mrs. Lula
Ennis, Frank
Enzenauer, Helena
Evans, Alfred T.
Farkas, Joe
Farrar, F.T.
Feigenbutz, Elsie
Finley, Leonard
Fligor, Harriett
Fox, Otis
Franck, Clarence
Friedline, Frank
Fritzsche, Arthur
Fromme, Walter
Fullerton, Rebecca
Fulton, James
Gale, Albert
Gale, J.O.
Gibbs, Hallie
Gimber, Leo
Glade School Dist. 96
Glasgow, Hubert
Glenn, Mrs. J.E.
Glenn, Nette
Gremmels, Chas.
Gremmels, Sig L.
Grode, Theo
Gross, Mike M.
Grosvenor, Chas.
Guebert, Fred P.
Guebert, Herman
Guebert, Paul
Guetersloh, H.H.
Guetersloh, Henry
Hall, Albert
Hamilton, Price
Hand, O.H.
Hanft, August
Hanft, Chas. R.
Hanft, Mrs. Emma L.
Happel, William
Hargis, Irving
Hargis, Bessie
Harmon, Lacy L.
Harsha, A.L.
Harsha, Erna
Harsy, Jesse
Hartmann, Henry
Hartmann, Louis
Hawthorne, Wm. W.
Hays, A.F.
Hazemeyer, Albert
Heern, Ellen
Heins, Rudolph
Heiple, Goldie
Hennrich, Mary
Hicks, Arthur
Hindman, Mrs. J.H.
Hinnerichs, Henry
Hippard, Charles
Hitzemann, Arthur
Hollmann, Leo
Holmes, Lester
Hood, James
Horsley, G. Alpha
Hudson, Mrs. R.J.
Huey, John L.
Rieckenberg, Rudell
Hunt, Paul
Hunter, S.W.
Imhoff, Enos

printing lists for the next several months in hopes of reaching these people.

If you have information pertaining to these people or their heirs, contact or have them contact Diane at 618-965-3434.

Jackson, Mrs. C.A.
Janson, Charles
Jarrett, Park G.
Joiner, Roy
Jones, John F.
Jordan Grove Church
Kahle, Henry L. Sr. & Emma
Kattenbraker, G.E.
Kempfer, Frank
Kessel, Fred
Kettman, Gerald
Kloeppe, Albert
Kloeppe, August
Knewitz, Augusta
Knopf, John
Knott, Dillon
Koester, August
Kohrs, Martin
Korando, Amiel
Korando, Andy
Korando, Charles
Krull, Mrs. Otto
Kuehn, Sebastian
Kueker, Theodore
Labruyere, Walter
Langmeyer, Mary
Langrehr, Louis
Leiner Stock Farmm
Lindsay, Bert
Lindsay, Rose
Lindwedel, Elmer
Little, Warren
Maddox, C.L. & Fay
Maes, Nick
Mansker, Wilmer
Martin, Joe
Middendorf, Albe
Miller, Joe
Moeckel, Ervin
Moehrs, Arnold
Mohr, W.H.
Montroy, Joe E.
Morton, Ida
Muench, Fred
McCauley, George
McDonald, W.H.
McHatton, Thomas
McIntyre, Henry
McNeill, Homer
Naeger, Bernhard L.
Nanson Commission
Nevois, Noah
New Era School
Niemeyer, August
Nitzsche, Fred A.
Nitzsche, Theresa
Oak Leaf Club
Ohms, Martha
Oraville School District
Parrish, Charles
Patterson, E.B.
Paul, M.L. & Anna
Pautler, Albert
Pautler, Ezra M.
Pautler, W.A.
Phegley, Charles P.
Phegley, Joseph
Phemister, Irvin
Prest, E.A.
Pyatt, Frank & Pearl
Pyatt, Lucian W.
Pyatt, Mrs. John
Pyatt, Mrs. Robert
Pyron, Ernest & Jewell
Rader, Charles
Rathmacher, Louis
Red Bud Community Unit
Reformed Pres. Church
Rehmer, Louis

Reid, Edgar & Marg
Reid, J.M.
Reid, Ralph
Reinhardt, Dan C.
Reinhardt, George
Rieckenberg, Arnold
Rieckenberg, Mrs. A
Robinson, Carl
Robinson, Katherine
Robinson, Grace
Robinson, Marion
Rockwood Bapt. Church
Rockwood School
Rohlfing, Louis
Roseberry, Wm.
Rowald, Henry
Ruebke, Fritz
Kohrs, Martin
Rush, J.A.
Rust, Willis
Schaller, Dr. Edward
Schaller, John
Schneier, John
Schmierbach, Arthur
Schneider, Ben
Schneider, Charles
Schnepel, Henry
Schnepel, Herman
Schnepel, Theodore
Schnoeker, Theresa
Schoenbeck, Fred
Schrieber, Mrs. Alv
Schuetz, Louis M.
Schuster, Herman
Schutte, Wm. H.
Sickmeyer, Oscar
Siemers, Fritz
Simons, Harold
Smiley, Jessie W.
Smiley, R.J.
Smith, C.A.
Smith, Henry
Smith, Salkfield
Spencer, Wallace
Springer, W.E.
Stallman, Ed
Stellhorn, Herbert
Stevenson, Otto
Stevenson, Mrs. Ann
Stevenson, Willard
Stewart, David
Stork, Lawrence N.
Sudheimer, Louis
Vancil, Hazel
Vogel, Arthur
Wachsnicht, Mrs. Fritz
Walker, Earl & Pau
Walker, J.D.
Weber, Mrs. Anna
Webster, W.A.
Wegener, Diedrich
Welge, A.H.
White, Joe G.
Wildy, Frieda
Wildy, Walter H.
Wilson, Charles E.
Wilson, George
Wilson, Herman
Wilson, W.J.
Winkleman, Mrs. Aug
Winkleman, Mrs. Mar
Wisely, Will
Wittenborn Carl &
Wittenborn, Ray
Wolfe, H.A. & Louis
Woolford, Lillie
Wright, Edward
Young, W.C.
Zanders, Albert C.

Egyptian Messenger

The Egyptian Messenger, published by the Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association, with offices in Steeleville and Murphysboro, providing electric service to Southern Illinois.

From the Manager's Desk

by Harry Kuhn



ANNUAL MEETING

The cooperative's 55th annual meeting is history and it was another well-attended meeting. There were 243 registered members in attendance and the overall crowd seemed to be about the same size as recent years, with not too many of the 450 chairs we set up being vacant. The num-

ber of registered members was down slightly from last year, but we expected that the flood situation in our service area would probably have some impact on attendance. If you were not able to make this year's meeting, we hope that you will try to make it next year.

CAPITAL CREDITS

As was announced at the annual meeting, the board of directors has authorized the general retirement of capital credits for the years of 1968, 1969, and 1970. The first general retirement that was made last year covered the years of 1953-1967 and involved approximately \$220,000. This retirement will approximate \$180,000. As with the last retirement, we will first issue checks to those cur-



Three members of Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association were reelected to the board of directors during the cooperative's 55th annual meeting August 5 in Steeleville. From left are directors Harold I. Dycus of Carbondale, Archie Hamilton of Ava and Raymond C. Mulholland of Marissa and Harry W. Kuhn, manager.



Members register prior to the meeting.

rent members who were receiving service during the years that are to be retired. We expect to get those checks in the mail within the next two months. After issuing these checks, we will then concentrate on finding those members who are no longer taking service. In that regard, we will continue to ask your help in looking over the names we are going to print in this section each month and letting us know if you know the whereabouts of these people or their heirs. As we go along and build an address file for those we do not have, future retirements should become a little easier.

RATES

As most members are aware that have been on the system for awhile, this is the time of year that we usually make a decision on the next year's rates. Any rate changes must be included in the rate packets that are mailed to the self-billed accounts in early October. As the members at the annual meeting were told, the good news is that current rates will remain in effect through September 1994.

FLOOD DAMAGE

Our situation in regard to flood damage is pretty well unchanged since last month. Our lines on Kaskaskia Island and in the flooded area around Prairie Du Rocher are still under water and we have not been able to determine as yet as to what extent the facilities are damaged. In all other areas, our primary lines are in service and it is only individual services that are affected. As I



Two registration lines were set up.

write this on August 20, we have had several requests from members to have their service reconnected so we know that they are starting to move back into their homes. We have not moved our equipment back into the Cora substation as yet, but will probably do so in about a week. We could tolerate three feet of water in the station, so we will wait until the river drops enough where any levee break would not flood our site any deeper than that level.

OUTAGES

This has been quite a summer for electrical storms and all the lightning has caused a lot of breaker operations and line blinks on the system.



There were 243 members registered.

Whenever lightning strikes our line and arcs over to ground, the arc to ground is a short circuit path and short circuit current will continue to flow until something breaks the arc. That something is an automatic circuit recloser that operates when it senses short circuit current above a certain level. It simply interrupts the circuit for an instant to break the arc and then locks back in. As I have mentioned before, our breakers are set to operate and reclose three times on a short circuit and if the fault has not cleared, it will lock the circuit out

on the fourth operation. Thus, it will clear a lightning arc in one operation, but if a tree limb contacts the line, it may operate two or three times before the limb clears. Usually, if your lights blink three times in rapid succession, the odds are pretty good that they are going off on the next operation because the fault is probably a permanent one and will have to be cleared by our linemen. Our breakers do automatically reset themselves so that if one does operate from one to three times and the fault clears, it will reset itself so that is good for the full number of operations on the next short circuit. Automatic circuit reclosers will cause you to reset your digital clocks on temporary faults, but they are wonderful pieces of equipment in that they keep a lot of temporary short circuits from becoming full-blown outages and they play a big part in keeping your lights on during storms. So, if your lights blink, you know that the breakers protecting your circuit are doing their job.

BILLING PACKETS

This is the time of year that we start putting the billing packets together for the self-billed accounts and they should go into the mail around the twelfth of October. Based on the experience of prior years, they should be delivered well before the twentieth, but if you are a self-billed account and have not received yours by then, please contact one of our offices. We think our address records are in good shape and we have gotten very few returns out of 8,000 mailings in the past, but there are always a few members who do not receive their packets and we need to know if you did not receive yours.



Wayne Humphreys of Iowa was the guest speaker at the annual meeting.

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Allen, Laura	Davis, Wm. J. & Minnie	Hayes, Jack & Mary	McMurray, Claren	Smyth, Erna
Anderson, W.A.	Dean, Curtis & Jen	Hayler, Anna	Mezel, Jacob A.	Snider, June T.
Anderson, Wilford	Deason, F.E.	Heape, Harold	Mifflin, Harry	Snodgrass, Mary
Appleton, David	Dedera, Joseph	Hecke, Theodore	Miller, George H.	Somerset Grange Hall
Armstrong, T.A.	Diercks, Rudolph	Heins, Arthur	Miller, Leonard	Speith, Nona
Asbury, Roy	Dillinger, Raleigh	Helms, Thos.	Moore, Clyde & Elma	Stallins, R.B.
Austin, Lloyd	Ditzler, Ed	Henderson, Russel	Moore, Grace	Stallman, Herman
Baer, Edmund P.	Ditzler, George	Heuman, Raymond	Mueller, Theobald	Stearns, Clyde
Bain, Leona Mrs.	Ditzler, S. Homer	Higgerson, Harle	Muench, George	Steele, Everett
Baumbauer, Daniel	Doctorman, Arnold	Hirte, Charles	Muench, Loren	Stellhorn, Oscar
Baskin, Hugh T.	Doerr, Clyde	Holland, Rudie	Mulholland, Albert	Sternberg, Harry
Bauersachs, Rudolph	Doerr, E.A.	Hoover, Velma	Mulholland, Walter	Stout, George
Beck, A.H. & Mrs.	Dominick, August	Hornbostel, Mart	Murden, Charles	Strothman, Henry
Beisner, William	Drury, Herman	House, Wiley	Muskopf, Robert	Stueve, Henry
Bersche, Ralph	Eastman, Frank	Imm, Martha Mrs.	Neal, Bert & Elsie	Such, John
Betts, Dorothy Mae	Ebers, Martin	Irwin, Lizzie	North, Russell	Sullivan, Kenneth
Bierman, Henry J.	Ebers, Wm. F.	Isom, Clint & Ora	Ohlau, Arthur	Sympson, Virgil
Blackwood, Ed.	Ebersohl, Leonard	Johnson, A.L.	Ohlau, Eva	Tankersley, C.E.
Bockhorn, Alva	Egbert, Eva Mrs.	Jolley, Clyde	Otten, John A.	Thetford, Raymond
Bockhorn, William	Eggemeyer, Alex	Jones, Harold	Pannier, Peter	Tillock, John
Bost, Cletus	Eggemeyer, Arnold	Junge, Joseph C.	Parks, John	Tindall, Iva Mrs.
Bowlin, Harrell	Eggemeyer, George	Junge, Ernest	Pautler, John	Titter, Elmer
Bradbury, Florence	Eggemeyer, Phillip	Keeton, Ruth Goins	Pautler, Theresa	Townsend, D.C.
Bradley, Earl	Eisenhauer, Edgar	Kessel, Carol & Ber	Petroff, Louis	Tretter, Joe
Brandon, Lloyd	Eisenhauer, Karl	King, George & Ann	Phemister, Louis	Trierweiler, Albert
Breithaupt, Fred	Elliot, H.R. & Mary	King, Maggie	Piper, Jennie	Tudor, Otis
Breithaupt, Oscar	Ellis, Ralph	Kirchhoefer, Herm.	Porter, Howard & G	Tuthill, F.E.
Brewer, Rollo	Emling, Ed	Kisela, Louis	Pribble, T.L. & Willa	Twenhafel, Paul
Brimmer, Maggie	Endress, Adolph	Kloeppe, Emil	Pyron, Dan	Tyler, Carl E.
Brooks, J.E.	Ervin, Floyd W.	Kloeppe, Ernest	Reeves, Bert	Valerius, F.M.
Brown, Bessie	Etherton, Charles	Knop, John	Rehmer, Louis	Vancil, Roscoe
Brown, Loren	Etherton, Cora	Knudson, Hans	Reiman, Fred	Van Meter, Olen
Brown, Mary	Etherton, Joe	Koch, Edna	Reiman, Sherman	Vanpelt, Frank
Bryant, Allie	Fairleigh, August	Krantz, Alfred	Reihardt, Alvin	Vanpelt, L.C.
Bryant, Joe	Fann, Wm. & Juanita	Kueker, Edward	Reinhardt, Fred	Wagner, Henry
Bueckman, Anita	Farley, Fred	Kueker, Henry	Renner, Minnie M.	Waller, D.C.
Buch, Fred F.	Farmer, William	Kueker, Sophia	Reuss, Conrad	Waller, Lois
Buch, Paul & Edna	Fox, Joseph E.	Kuhnert, Herman	Rich, J. Leslie	Walters, Susie
Buch, Wm. Sr.	Franklin, W.E.	Lake, Clemens	Ripely, Minnie	Warren, Arthur
Burns, Miller	Frazer, C.E.	Lakeman, Omer	Ripley, S.R.	Warren, Clifton
Butler, B.H.	Gaertner, Leo	Lambert, W.M.	Roethe, Ed.	Weber, Fred
Butler, R.	Gannon, Martin	Lancaster, L.J. & C.	Rogers, Allen	Weber, William
Butz, Joe & Mae	Garver, Ralph	Lefler, Reba	Rowald, William	Wesbecher, Wm. L.
Cairns, George & M.	Gerlach, Edmund	Lehman, Wm. & Ella	Ruble, Rosa	Whitley, Juanita
Calahan, David	Gerlach, W.H.	Lepere, W.E.	Runge, Henry A.	Wild, Charles
Canada, Clyde	Gilmour, H.E.	Lepere, J.F.	Russel, John	Wild, Fred
Canning, Earl	Goetting, Lee	Lepla, W.H.	Sams, John	Wild, Walter
Caraway, Lester	Graff, Wayne	Lester, Ed	Saul, Fred	Wiley, W.F.
Carbondale City Lake	Grammer, O.C. & Mrs.	Lindwedel, Edwin	Schiffendecker, H.J.	Williams, Reece
Caron, Charles J.	Granneman, Ferd	Lindwedel, Elmer	Schmidt, Raymond	Williamson, Pete R.
Cashion, Anna	Griffith, Troy	Lindsay, A.J.	Schmoll, Emil	Wilson, George
Clare, Jack & Ida	Grosvenor, Lester	Lipe, Harry & Hattie I.	Schneider, Alfreed	Wingerter, Jess
Clark School District	Guebert, Alfred E.	Logan Hollow Church	Schrieber, Oscar	Wisley, Arthur
Clasen, Alma	Haberman, Elmer	Logan Hollow School	Segelhorst, Edward	Wittenborn, Mrs. W.
Claussen, Ernest	Hagler, James	Mankin, George	Sherman, Ed	Wolf, H.C.
Collins, Leo & Bea	Hand, John	Manor, Arthur	Sickler, Haskell	Wolter, Otto
Connor, Louise M.	Happel, Charles	Marshall, Herbert	Siefert, William	Wright, Albert Mrs.
Cox, James & Merti	Harbaugh, Jerome	McCormick, Edith	Siemers, Ed	Wright, Laura Bel
Crain, Ollie M.	Harding, H.C.	McHatton, Lloyd	Smith, Fred	Yearian, Willard
Crane, O.R.	Hargis, Lester	McIntire, Hugh	Smith, J.J.	Zanders, Wesley
Cross, Clarence	Harris, Frank	McKee, Bertha	Smith, Raleigh	Zimmerman, John
Crow, George	Hartsock, Dan	McKinney, Delbert	Smith, Virgil	Zimmerman, Robert
Crowder, Arthur	Hawkins, M.A.	McKinney, Lee	Smith, Wayne R.	

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From the Manager's Desk

by Harry Kuhn



REN MAGAZINE

The company that prints this magazine had a fire a couple of months ago and lost part of their mailing operation. They have been trying to keep up with their remaining equipment, but apparently the magazines have not been going out on a timely basis. Our August issue, which contained the annual meeting notice, was mailed on time but the September issue did not reach the homes of our members until the week of the thirteenth of September. It should have been delivered during the last week of August, at the latest. That being the case, our notice of office closing for Labor Day was after the fact and some of the things that I wrote about were rather dated by the time they reached you. Our state association is working on the problem and hopefully it will be resolved before too long, but if you are not receiving this in the week ahead of the month shown on the front cover, it is still running late.

CAPITAL CREDIT REFUNDS

In the previous issue I did advise you that a general refund of capital credits was being made for the year of 1968-1970 and that the checks would be mailed during the next couple of months. The checks were mailed on September 15, 1993, and if you were receiving service during any of those three years and your refund totaled more than \$10, you should have received a check. We issued 1,820 checks and the total amount of the checks was approximately \$85,000. It is our policy not to issue checks for less than \$10, unless it closes out a member's account, so if you were a member during one of those years and your refund was less than \$10, that amount will be included in the next refund where your total does exceed the \$10 minimum. Out of the \$85,000 refunded this time, approximately \$4,500 went to

members whose refund at the time of the first refund last year was less than \$10, but whose total now exceeded \$10 when the years of 1968-80 were included.

In the last issue we had published the names of over 300 former members and asked for your assistance in locating addresses for these people or their heirs, if they were deceased. Not being aware that the magazine was running late, I was really puzzled by the fact that we were not getting any response from the membership, but that all changed on the 13th and 14th of September. When the magazine hit your mailbox, our phones started ringing and we received over 150 calls in a couple of days. Calls are still coming in and we really appreciate your help because we are going to be able to locate a lot of former members or their heirs that we would not have been able to find otherwise. Your response really tells me two things. One is that a lot of you read this magazine, which I appreciate, and secondly, that you care about helping someone receive what is due them, and that is great. We had anticipated that we could get forms mailed out fairly quickly, but since your response has been so good, it is going to take a little longer than we anticipated. Thus, if in the future you happen to be one that is waiting for the forms or if you know someone that is waiting and wondering why they have not received them right away, please be assured that we will get them out as soon as we can do the necessary verifications and get them in the mail.

We will be going through this process for the better part of a year, so keep looking over the lists. What we need is addresses or phone numbers whereby we can follow up with a contact. In case you are wondering how we are determining which names to print first, we are going by certificate number order, with the oldest numbers being printed first. Each member has a certificate number assigned when he or she becomes a member and that number is unique to that person and is not used again if the member leaves the system. All the capital credits a member might earn are assigned to that certificate number in the year earned and those records are the basis for making the refunds. When the cooperative was formed, they started with certificate number one

and today we are over the fifty thousand mark, so that means over forty thousand members have come and gone on the system. It also means that we have a lot of people to keep track of for future refunding of capital credits, but with modern computers it is not that much of a job if everyone will keep us supplied with their new addresses as they move about.

BAR CODING

By the time you read this, all self-billed members should have received their billing packets and many will have already used the first bill out of the packet. If you are a self-billed account and have looked at your billing material, you may have noticed that the billing stubs look a little different and they all have a set of bar code lines on them. Those bar codes contain the members account information and when we receive a billing card, we will simply read the bar code with a scanner. The computer will then automatically pull up the right account and all we have to do is key in the present reading. Using bar coding, we avoid having to key in the members account number and thus speed up the process and reduce the possibility of errors. At the present time, only self-billed accounts will be bar coded, but when we exhaust our supply of billing material for the billed accounts, we will also bar code those bills. Billed account bills already have the readings entered into the computer, so all we will have to do with those stubs is scan them, assuming the member pays the exact amount due.

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

In order to help you find emergency numbers when you need them the most, we are supplying all members with a refrigerator-type magnet and a glued sticker and we suggest you place them near your telephone. Both the magnet and sticker have a place to write an account number and we are asking each one of you to write your account number in the box. Your account number is also your location number and it enables us to find you on our system. You will find the account number on the billing stub above your name and it is in three parts in the boxes labeled map, section and house. Thus, if your map number happened to be 5, your section number 28 and your house number 2, you should record it as 5-28-0002. We have numbered all the townships we serve and if the example location was yours, it would tell us that you live in township T3s-R5w, in section 28 and you were the second house connected in that section. Once we have that number, we simply turn to map 5, look in section 28 and we are able to find you in a matter of seconds. If you were reporting an outage at the sample location, you would simply say that I live at location five, twenty eight, two. That is how we use

the numbers and our answering service is familiar with that format, so it makes it easier for them to understand and record the locations if you will report them in that manner.

If you will give your location number to the answering service when the office is closed it will greatly speed up the process because it will save them the time of having to look up your location. They can simply record the number and move on to the next call. Without the number, they must get your name, get the correct spelling and then page through the alpha listing to make sure we have you listed. You may question as to why we have to verify that we have you listed after you have given your name. The simple answer is that if we do not, Murphy's law will dictate that we can not find it in the listing and you are now off the phone and we don't know where to find you. Why do we not find everyone in the listing? In most cases, it is due to the fact that the service is not in the name of the person reporting the outage. This situation can occur when several people, such as students, share rental housing, where landlords keep the service in their name or where someone passes away and a family member continues the service without putting it in his or her name. The natural thing to do when reporting an outage is to use your own name and that can really slow the process down when you are reporting an outage for a location that is not in your name and our billing system does not know who you are.

The point I hope I am making is that location numbers eliminate confusion and the possibility of errors. An outage call can be handled in seconds if the caller knows his or her location number, but can take minutes if we have to go through the whole process of matching up a name with a location number. The longer it takes, the less calls that can be handled in a given time period.

Why did we not write your location number on your magnet and stickers? We simply did not have the time to record nearly twelve thousand locations and then make sure they were placed in the right envelope or billing packet. There is less chance of error if you do it, so we are asking for your help.



Office closings



Our offices will be closed Thursday, November 11, in observance of Veterans' Day and Thursday, November 25, and Friday, November 26, for the Thanksgiving holidays.

Before you shop for light bulbs

Consider a brighter idea

Incandescent bulbs waste 90 percent of their electricity use making heat instead of light. New energy-efficient light bulbs give you more light for your money, save energy, and are good for the environment. Many energy-efficient bulbs are designed to give off a warm, soft light just like incandescents. While they may cost more initially, energy-efficient light bulbs save you money in the long run with lower bills and fewer replacements.

The four main types of energy efficient bulbs



Energy efficient incandescent

Best for: Lamps that are on less than 15 minutes per day or where halogen or compact fluorescent bulbs won't fit. Gives light similar to a standard incandescent.

Energy use: 10 percent more efficient than a standard incandescent bulb.

Lifespan: 750 hours



Compact fluorescent

Best for: Where usage exceeds one hour a day. Floor lamps, hanging fixtures, and some ceiling sockets are easiest to fit. Gives light similar to an incandescent.

Energy use: 400 percent more efficient than a standard incandescent bulb.

Lifespan: 9,000-12,000 hours

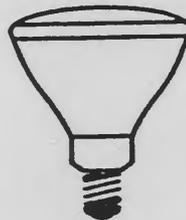


High intensity discharge

Best for: Outdoors, especially security lighting, and where usage occurs over extended periods. Gives a different color light than an incandescent.

Energy use: 400 percent more efficient than a standard incandescent bulb.

Lifespan: 10,000-24,000 hours



Halogen

Best for: Recessed or "canned" fixtures, track lights, and outdoor lights. Produces whiter light than standard incandescents.

Energy use: Up to 200 percent more efficient than a standard incandescent bulb.

Lifespan: 2,000 hours

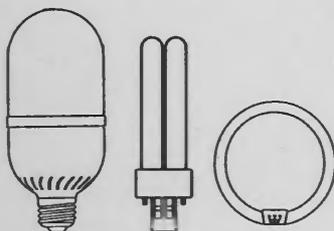
Make the switch to compact fluorescents

New compact fluorescent bulbs are some of the most efficient and convenient of all energy-efficient lights. Three types are available:

Single Unit: Discarded when the bulb burns out. Available in different models, including decorative globes, outdoor flood lights, and reflector bulbs designed for recessed fixtures.

Packaged Kit: A twin tube or double twin tube bulb, attached to a base. Only the bulb needs replacing when it burns out — the base can be reused.

Circular Type: Some brands have a reusable base, others must be discarded when the bulb burns out.



Save money, help the environment

Replacing one 60-watt incandescent bulb with a comparable 18-watt fluorescent will save the typical household about \$40 in energy costs over the life of the new bulb (10,000 hours). It will also save the energy equivalent of 400 pounds of coal and help reduce air pollution.

Do you know these people?

A general retirement of capital credits was issued for the years 1953 to 1967. The following people had service with Egyptian Electric during those years and have since left our service lines. We have no current address for them. We will be

printing lists for the next several months in hopes of reaching these people.

If you have information pertaining to these people or their heirs, contact or have them contact Diane at 618-965-3434.

Ahlers, Joseph
 Ahner, Milton
 Allard, J. L.
 Allard, Scott
 Alley, Grace
 Andrew, Robert
 Applegate, Phillip
 Arbeiter, Louis
 Armstrong, Roscoe
 Arnold, Peter
 Atchison, Omer
 Bahn, R. M.
 Bahn, Rudolph M.
 Ballard, Esther
 Ballard, Virgil
 Barnowski, Mike
 Bartles, Walter
 Bathon, John A.
 Bathon, John J.
 Bathon, George
 Bathon, Mike Sr.
 Beck, Alfred
 Beck, Arthur
 Beck, Wilbert
 Becker, Ed
 Bigler, Edward
 Bilderback, John
 Blacklock, J. H.
 Blair, Nancy
 Blind, Lester
 Bodeker, Everett
 Brand, Edward C.
 Brand, Mathilda
 Brand, Omer
 Brase, Louis
 Braun, Lawrence
 Brayshaw, F. & Bert
 Brockmeyer, Herman
 Brune, Louis
 Bruns, Bernard
 Bruns, John C.
 Brush, Rudolph
 Bunge, Paul
 Burnett, C. A. & Ettie
 Byrd, J. R.
 Callais, George
 Caruthers, Flora
 Carter, Kenneth
 Cason, W. T.
 Casten R. W. & Frieda
 Cleland, Charles
 Charles, Louisa
 Comte, Eugene
 Craig, Bert
 Culik, Anton
 Davitz, Percy
 Dean, Ernest
 Decker, Herman
 Dehne, Charles
 Diechmann, Ben Jr.
 Dodge, Laverne
 Dorn, John B.
 Dorn, Robert
 Draves, Elmer

Dudenbostel, Elza E.
 Easton, Buster
 Eaton, Bryan
 Ebers, Adolph
 Ebers, Herbert & Cordula
 Eggemeyer, Herman
 Epplin, Louis & Elizabeth
 Evans, Ross
 Falkenhein, Emma
 Fehrman, Henry
 Finley, Willard
 Fisher, James H.
 Fox, Sarah
 Fulton, John M.
 Funkhouser, Edward
 Garver, Walter
 Gassel, Ben & Louise
 Gawle, Pauline
 Geagan, Edw. C.
 Gibson, Cora
 Gladson, Arta
 Glenn, Arthur
 Goss, Caroline
 Graff, Dan Sr.
 Graff, Marie
 Graff, Ross M.
 Gray, Everett
 Grewe, W. H.
 Gruber, Earl
 Gruebmeier, John
 Hagler, Don & Eva
 Hairgrove, Roy
 Hagane, Jacob
 Hall, Bert
 Hallbauer, Otto
 Halstead, Lawrence
 Hamilton, Laura
 Hammel, Freeman
 Hapke, Dora
 Hargis, Leslie
 Harmon, James
 Harris, Ward & Mary
 Harrouff, Roscoe
 Hartje, Elmer
 Hartman, Ervin
 Heine, Wm. & Clara
 Heinemann, Louis Jr.
 Heiple, Floyd
 Hennrich, Louis
 Hepp, Scott
 Herring, James C.
 Herron, Thomas
 Hettenhausen, Ronald
 Higgerson, Rudolph
 Hogrefe, Dora
 Holder, Paul & Ruby
 Hull, William
 Huppert, Herman
 Ihle, Charles
 Irose, Andrew
 Jackson, B. E.
 Johnson, Jesse
 Juenger, H. L.
 Karsten, Irving

Kellerman, Edward H.
 Kellerman, William J.
 Kelley, C. F.
 Kelley, Leo & Ella
 Kiefer, Floyd
 Kiel, Adolph
 Kirchhoefer, Christ
 & Louise
 Klausning, Chris
 Kloth, Henry
 Kniepkamp, Roy
 Koch, Bertha
 Koenen, Frank
 Koester, Wm. L.
 Kohring, Roy
 Korando, Albert
 Kraft, Lyman
 Krauf, Pearl
 Landfried, H. G.
 Leonard, Justin
 Levan, Pete
 Lindner, Clarence
 Lindwedel, Henry
 Lingle, George M.
 Linze, Helen
 Linzle, William
 Lodge, Charles Sr.
 Lohman, Herbert
 Lueker, Elva
 Lunnemann, Henry
 Lunneman, Albert
 Maes, Art & Martha
 Mansker, Ray
 Marcinkowski, August R.
 Marquadt, Ed
 Marshall, Wm.
 Mason, Henry
 Matheny, John
 McDaniel, B. L.
 McDonald, Roy
 McDonnough, Richard W.
 McIntyre, Harvey
 McIntyre, Wm. James
 Meyerhooff, Theodore
 Miller, Edward
 Miller, Rose
 Misselhorn, Fritz
 Moeller, Gottlieb
 Moll, Isadore
 Montgomery, Carl
 Moore, Delores M.
 Morgan, R. L.
 Mt. Joy Lutheran Church
 Mueller, Fred
 Mullins, Truman
 Muskopf, Alvina
 Nehr Korn, Leland
 Neihouse, John
 Nesbit, Harry
 Niederbrach, Theodore
 Niemeyer, Charles W.
 Opp, John
 Parker, Thomas
 Patridge, Melvin

Patton, D. R.
 Perry, Ralph
 Petri, John
 Petrowske, Andrew
 Pflasterer, Fred
 Phemister, Jeff
 Phemister, Milo
 Pierson, Everett
 Popejoy, Roley
 Porter, James A.
 Postlethwait, Charles
 Pratt, E. J.
 Presswood, Cecil
 Presswood,
 Mrs. Christian
 Pulke, Charles
 Queen, Ira
 Quillman, Harry
 Rader, John & Lucy
 Rathert, Fred
 Rathert, Walter
 Reames, Ed & Iva
 Rees, Ben
 Reid, Louis
 Reinhardt, O. A.
 Reuscher, Henry
 Rieckenbert, George
 Rinne, Alfred
 Rodewald, Henry
 Roe, James & Iva
 Roesch, Arthur & Anna
 Rohlfing, Alvin
 Ross, Ed
 Royce, Bernard
 Rubach, Henry
 Rubach, Herman
 Ruble, G. W.
 Runge, Emil
 Rushing, Lee & Mae
 Rushing, Orval
 Russell, Fred
 Russell, W. E.
 Salger, Albert
 Salger, Ernest
 Schatte, Bertha
 Schemoney, Tonia Jolley
 Schlimme, Charles
 Schoepfel, Mildred M.
 Schwartzkopf, Loren
 Schwartzkopf, Otto
 Schwebel, Albert
 Schwebel, Christ
 Seeman, Henry
 Sheridan, Thomas
 Shields, Martin
 Short, Foster
 Sickmeyer, Adolph E.
 Skidmore, Lewis
 Smiley, Arthur
 Smith, Everett
 Smith, Eugene
 Smith, James & Pauline
 Smith, Joe & Martha
 Smith, Robert

Smith, Russell
 Snider, George
 Snyder, Ray
 Spreitler, Frank
 Spreitler, Pete
 Steele, Ed
 Steele, R. R.
 Steinheimer, E. G.
 Stellhorn, Adolph
 Stellhorn, Louis
 Stellhorn, Wilhelm
 Stevens, Floyd
 Stipe, Jim K.
 Stirnaman, Nevin
 Stoffel, Irma
 Stork, Clemens
 Stotz, Henry
 Taylor, Hosea
 Templeton, James S.
 Thompson, Dorris
 Thompson, Leonard
 Thompson, Sam
 Todd, Thomas H.
 Varnum, G. T.
 Varnum, W. J.
 Vasquez, Joseph
 Voss, August & Sophia
 Waeltz Brothers
 Waeltz, Isfried
 Waeltz, Louis
 Walkenhorst, Louis
 Warhousen, Henry
 Wegener, William
 Welge, Flora
 Welsch, Sylvester
 Wendling, Kate
 Wesbecher, Rosa
 Whisler, A. L.
 Wicklein, Lucvica
 Wildermuth, Louis E.
 Wilke, Alvie
 Wilson, Clyde
 Winchester, Frank
 Wingerter, Arthur
 Wisely, Owen
 Witthoft, Wm. F.
 Woehlke, Emil
 Wolters, Rudolph
 Woodward, Dillard
 & Nettie
 Worthen, Carl & Clara
 Wright, J. H.
 Wylie, James F.
 Wylie, Roland
 Yearian, Fayette
 Young, Ferd P.
 Zacher, Arthur
 Zang, John & Belle
 Ziegler, Milda
 Zimmerman, Harold
 Zimmerman, Mattie
 & Ray
 Zoller, Clarence

What to do if the power goes off

We offer these suggestions:

1. Check your main fuses or circuit breakers.
2. Check your meter pole. If you have breakers, make sure they are in the "on" position.
3. If you still have no power, check with your neighbors to see if they have power.

4. DURING OFFICE HOURS: (8 a.m. -4 p.m., Monday through Friday)
 CALL THE OFFICE NUMBER
 NEAREST YOU: Steeleville 965-3434
 or Murphysboro 684-2143.

AFTER OFFICE HOURS:
 STEELEVILLE AREA — Call
 1-800-606-1505

MURPHYSBORO AREA — Call
 684-2144.

SOMEONE IS ALWAYS ON DUTY
 TO TAKE EMERGENCY CALLS
 AFTER HOURS.

5. Please give the person who answers the member's name as it is billed, and other information requested.

Egyptian Messenger

The Egyptian Messenger, published by the Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association, with offices in Steeleville and Murphysboro, providing electric service to Southern Illinois.

From the Manager's Desk

by *Harry Kuhn*



STICKERS AND MAGNETS

If you are a self-billed member and have looked at all of the contents of your billing packet, you should have found a peel-off sticker and a refrigerator-type magnet inside. If you are a billed account member, you should have received the same items with your October bill. In writing the letter that accompanied the billing material and bills, I made some assumptions that one is inclined to do when everything is crystal clear in your own mind. Unfortunately, what is entirely clear to the writer is not so to someone not familiar with the subject.

First off, I was careful to examine a bill that was included in the self-billed packet to make sure that the account numbers were located in boxes labeled map, section and house. I then assumed that the billed account bills were labeled the same way and that assumption turned out to be wrong. On the billed account bills, there is no box labeled house and instead it is called location (Locat). In the examples used in the letters, I did show that there could be as many as four numbers in the boxes labeled house or location, but for any given account, it could be as few as one. For subdivisions and mobile home parks, our numbers may correspond to lot numbers and have an extra digit to distinguish one subdivision from another, so there may be three or four digits in that portion of the account number. In rural areas where there may be less than 10 connects per section of land, there will probably be only one number in that portion of the account number.

The other assumption I made was that when I referred to a magnet being included with the material, everyone would recognize a refrigerator-type magnet as being just that. Apparently that did not always turn out to be the case, so let me

assure you that the heavier of the two labels we mailed is indeed a magnet and if you will put it on your refrigerator or some other metal surface, it will stick very nicely. The other label is a peel-off label and should stick to most surfaces. We included it so you could post it where you do not have a metal surface close to your phone.

CAPITAL CREDITS

We are not including a list of names in this issue because we need a break to catch up with the last three lists. Your response has been so much greater than we anticipated and we have so many leads to follow up on that it is taking a little longer than we anticipated to process the claims. We had a 70 percent success rate on the first 316 names and that is really quite a bit better than I anticipated, especially in view of the fact that we started with the oldest certificate numbers first, which means members who probably have been gone from the system the longest. Many of those members are now deceased, so we have had to make a lot of phone and mail contacts to follow up on leads, but we have been fairly successful in locating heirs, thanks to your help. We mailed 196 checks this week and we have 58 estates that require further follow up in the way of submitting dates of death and documents we require, so I think it is going very well. By next month we should be caught up and we will start publishing lists of names again. As we go up the certificate number list and publish names of members who have left the system more recently, we will have less and less estates to deal with and the process will speed up a little. In that regard, we could already notice a difference between the first and second lists as to the number of former members who are still living.

Once again, capital credits are simply your share of the margins or profits that the cooperative earned for those years that are being refunded. The refund is based entirely on your usage during those years and will differ from your friends or neighbors unless you happened to use the exact same amount of kilowatt-hours during each year being refunded. That is unlikely to happen, so your refund will be more or less than

the amounts received by other people that you may know. We are now refunding for the years 1953-1970 and the goal is to refund on a 20-year cycle. In other words, we will always be 20 years behind the current year, so it is important to leave us with forwarding addresses when you leave the system and to update it as necessary.

FLOOD DAMAGE

This week we are finally able to get into the flooded areas where we incurred damage and we are making a detailed inventory of the total damage and a cost estimate of the repair work. Those figures have not been put together as yet, but I will have a cost estimate by next month. We

are restoring some services to Kaskaskia Island, but it is slow going and we are not able to get to some of the downed lines as yet. It is going to take quite a bit more drying before we will be able to get our heavy equipment off the road, but if the weather holds and they are able to close the levies, we will eventually be able to get power to every one that wants it.

Office closing

Our offices will be closed on Friday, December 24, in observance of Christmas and on Friday, December 31, in observance of New Year's Day.

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 you do some planning and take a few precautions.

When the power goes off, the first thing to do is 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 light-

weight 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 and close them at night.



Prepare emergency supplies to make an outage easier to cope with.

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 and crackers.

2. Fill plastic jugs with water.

3. Have throwaway plates, plastic silverware and a manual can opener on hand.

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

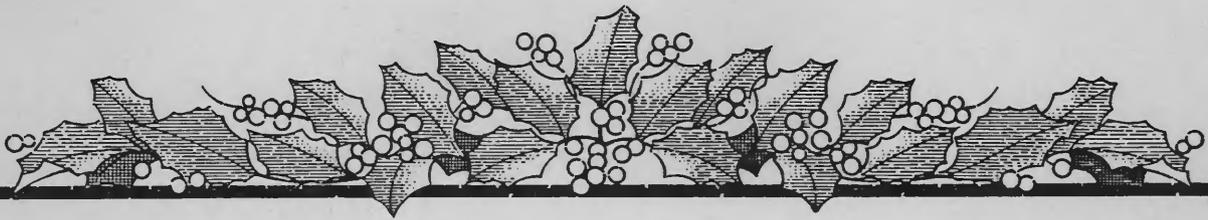
1. Wind-up alarm clock
2. Battery powered radio
3. Extra blankets

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.



TURN LIGHTS OFF

when you leave home unattended.



A Merry Christmas to all!

Our modern Christmas tradition comes to us from centuries of folklore, custom, ritual and superstition drawn from many different cultures, lands and religions. Christmas ways form an incredible tangle, the roots anchored in Roman festival, Teutonic worship, Druid idolatry, papistry, Protestantism, local and personal habit, the whole tapestry woven together by the one factual thread — they all relate to “the twelve days.”

Some Christmas history:

The date — Western Christians had long believed that the twenty-fifth was the date on which Mary bore her Son, but they hadn't been able to agree on the month. December 25 was not established as the date of the celebration of the birth until sometime around 320 A.D. when the Catholic fathers in Rome decided to convert the Mithraic “Birthday of the Unconquered Sun” to the commemoration of the Savior's birth. In 567 the Council of Tours proclaimed the twelve days from December 25 to Epiphany (January 6) as a sacred, festive season.

The tree — The first historical mention of the Christmas tree is found in the notes of a citizen of Strasburg written in 1605. “At Christmas,” he wrote, “they set up fir-trees in the parlours at Strasburg and hang thereon roses cut out of many-coloured paper, apples, wafers, gold-foil, sweets, etc.” Princess Helen of Mecklenburg brought the custom to France in 1837. It spread to England when Prince Albert of Saxony and Queen Victoria “had a tree” at Windsor Castle for the pleasure of the royal children at Christmas time, 1841. Introduced into America by various waves of German immigrants, national recognition of the custom came in 1856 when President Pierce decorated one at the White House.

Yule — The derivation of the word is obscure, the most likely source being the ancient Norse word *jol*, a heathen feast lasting twelve days.

Noel — An expression of joy originally to commemorate the birth of Christ. From the Latin *natalis* to the French *na'al* and then to *noel*.

Messiah — Hebrew word meaning “anointed,” applied to a promised deliverer of the Jewish Nation and hence to Jesus of Nazareth.

The carols — One tends to hold carols in a spare corner of the mind, taking them out once per year for seasonal use. This makes them seem per-

petually fresh, yet also timeless. Most carols were “manufactured.” That is, the music and words arose at different times and were brought together for use as a carol. An exception is “**Silent Night**” written in 1818 by the parish priest and the church organist of Hallein, Austria, for the Christmas Eve service.

Away in a Manger — the words first appeared in 1885 in a children's book published in Philadelphia. The tune was written by William J. Kirkpatrick, the music director at Grace Church in Philadelphia and published in 1895.

The First Noel — The origins of both words and music are lost in tradition; the music was first printed in 1833 in W. Sandys' *Christmas Carols New and Old*.

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen — Probably originated in London. First printed in 1846. The music is at least a century older and probably very much more.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing — Charles Wesley wrote the first version of the words for publication in *Hymns and Sacred Poems* in 1739 and they were added to later by many others. In 1856 a church organist fitted them to a version of Mendelssohn's *Festgesang*.

The turkey — There are many versions of the story of how the bird got its name. The most believable: America is the only place where the turkey has been found wild and in a state of nature (there are none in Africa). Because the explorers of the late fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries believed that by sailing west they would reach India, the first islands they discovered became known as the West Indies. The French first called the bird the *Coq d'Inde*. Its name possibly came from its repeated call-note (*turk, turk, turk*). It was brought to France by the Jesuits towards the end of the seventeenth century who bred it in large numbers, particularly on one of their farms in the neighborhood of Bourges. From there it gradually spread over the whole of France and in many dialects the word for turkey became and still is *Jesuite*.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Directors

Archie Hamilton	Kevin L. Liefer
Harold I. Dycus	Raymond C. Mulholland
John E. Steele	Dale A. Smith
W. Dean Bame	Edward C. Timpner
Hubert L. Chapman	William Broom, Attorney

Employees

Harry Kuhn, Manager	William Korando
Scot Alms	Bob Kroeger
Dana Bayer	Wayne Luedeman
Don Bollman	Diane Maxwell
Sue Bridgeman	Richard McGill
Mike Chamness	Tammy Mikulay
Brenda Cleland	Art Pontow
Bryce Cramer	Bob Poole
Darwin Dailey	Norman Quillman
Glen Degenhardt	Wilbert Schnepel
Bryan Diercks	Aaron Schuster
John Donovan	Harold Shields
Michael Ellis	David Sickmeyer
Edie Ernsting	JoAnn Simmons
Tom Ernsting	Jim Smith
Linda Florreich	Richard Stein
Carl Goetting	Roger Stuva
Jim Grothaus	Kay Taylor
Charles Guetersloh	Gerald Thies
Larry Hartman	Linda Williamson
Terry Hope	Judy Wolters
Lester James	

What to do if the power goes off

We offer these suggestions:

1. Check your main fuses or circuit breakers.
2. Check your meter pole. If you have breakers, make sure they are in the "on" position.
3. If you still have no power, check with your neighbors to see if they have power.
4. DURING OFFICE HOURS: (8 a.m. -4 p.m., Monday through Friday) CALL THE OFFICE NUMBER NEAREST YOU: Steeleville 965-3434 or Murphysboro 684-2143.

AFTER OFFICE HOURS:
STEELEVILLE AREA — Call 1-800-606-1505
5. MURPHYSBORO AREA — Call 684-2144.
SOMEONE IS ALWAYS ON DUTY TO TAKE EMERGENCY CALLS AFTER HOURS.
Please give the person who answers the member's name as it is billed, and other information requested.