



THE SOUTHEASTERN LIGHT

Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative

Eldorado, Illinois



General Manager's Comments

James M. "Mick" Cummins

Power failures or "outages," as they are sometimes called, are as unpleasant for individual members as they are for the Cooperative. However, despite our best efforts, outages are inherent to an electrical distribution system and will continue to happen.

Over the years, as your Cooperative has grown, it has become particularly difficult to access Southeastern's phone system during outage conditions, and increasingly difficult to access it during peak calling periods. This has resulted in situations which not only frustrated the membership, but also delayed power restoration efforts. During the past decade several new lines were added to the Cooperative's vintage Harris Model No. 110 phone system, but it was still limited to receiving less than 300 calls per hour; hardly sufficient to accommodate a 20,000 member electric system. To alleviate these problems and to communicate more effectively with the membership, your Cooperative has installed a new GTE/Series III system.

The most conspicuous change will be a recorded greeting which will prompt members to route their calls to: (1) Billing, (2) Engineering, (3) Outage Reporting, or to hold for an operator.

Callers familiar with the extension number of the department or individual they wish to speak with can simply dial that extension number at any time during the recorded message. During high volume phone conditions such as outages, callers may be asked to leave their name and phone numbers on a recording which will allow contact at a later time by Cooperative personnel.

Although some may view recorded messages as "impersonal," there are few messages more impersonal and frustrating than receiving a constant "busy," "busy," "busy" signal when trying to report an outage or emergency situation. As with all complicated equipment, we anticipate there will be a few problems during the equipment change-over process which commenced on November 18, 1993. We ask for your cooperation and understanding during this period and as always, "We'll keep the lights on for you."

In our photo in last month's Silkwood Inn story, we misidentified one of those pictured. The woman we identified as Chloe Davis was in fact Irma Duvall. We regret the error.

Vandals cause large power outage

At 3:10 a.m., Thursday, October 28, at a location south of Old Ben's No. 25 Mine, which is located east of West Frankfort, unknown vandals dragged a large logging chain onto a

high voltage transmission line which serves Southeastern's substations in the Marion, Pittsburg, Johnston City, and West Frankfort areas.

More than 2,500 Southeastern

Illinois Electric Cooperative members were without service for over an hour and several reported appliance damage as a result of the sabotage.



Three hunters plan their opening-day strategy in the farming country near Raleigh. From left are C. R. Harbison, Ray Harbison and Dale Palmer.

Deer are major area attraction

While Southeastern Illinois is packed with magnificent scenery and blessed with a good deal of history, there is a certain time each year when it becomes famous for something that may seem, at first glance, to be an unlikely attraction: deer.

Southeastern Illinois, and Pope County in particular, is well-known as "the place to go," for those who are serious about bagging a trophy buck, or just scaring up some good venison.

People come from many states to try their luck in the "ridge and holler" country of Pope County. Many also stay for the Pope County Deer Festival, which begins every year on the opening weekend of firearms deer

season and runs for three days. The event includes stage entertainment and a queen contest. Trish Taber of Golconda reigned over this year's festivities, including the Saturday parade. In addition to the parade and other activities, the townspeople put up a large tent, and other organizations set up booths to sell baked goods, crafts and other items.

In all, some 7,000-8,500 people wander through the place at one time or another. There's a special barbecue sandwich that sells well during the event.

The festival — this year's was the 33rd — is sponsored by the local Rotary Club, and Merle Dailey, retired SEIEC area

serviceman, does much of the electrical work to get the place ready for the people who come to enjoy Southeastern Illinois hospitality.

Pope County, as usual, was in the top five counties in the number of deer harvested, with 1,971 taken during the first firearms season. That was 790 more than last year's 1,181. Near-perfect weather may have accounted for some of the added harvest, along with a deer population that has been growing for years. While there were moderate breezes, the temperature was a bit above freezing.

While Pope County is justly famous for its deer hunting, there are opportunities in the

less hilly country farther north. Long before daybreak on the morning of Friday, November 19, Saline County hunters were up and about, eating hurried breakfasts and deciding what to wear — heavy clothing for hunting from stands, and a little less for those who expected to spend much of their time tramping through woods and down fence-rows. Slug guns were checked for the umpteenth time.

After a little while, small clusters of orange-bedecked hunters formed up in the morning chill, hoping to try their luck on the first day of the 1993 firearms deer season. Deer sightings over the previous few days were discussed, and strategies laid out. Before long, hunters were walking fencerows, hoping to jump that elusive trophy buck — or to drive out a deer so a fellow hunter could get a shot at it.

As often happens, a couple of hunters managed to fill their tags within minutes after it became legal. As also often happens, the remaining hunters then settled down into the chase. The sound of an occasional shot — or string of shots — would carry across the expanse of corn, alfalfa fields, pasture and woods, giving rise to some hope that such activity would push deer their way. When



Trish Taber, center, was chosen Queen of the 1993 Pope County Deer Festival on Friday, November 19. Pictured from left are: Amber Presser, fourth runner-up, Stephanie Williamson, Miss Congeniality and second runner-up, Taber, April Aly, first runner-up, and Melissa McCulloch, third runner-up. (Sandy Cowser photo courtesy the Golconda Herald-Enterprise)

that hope faded, many hunters would unload their guns, case them, and climb into their trucks to check out other sites and compare notes with other hunters. All in all, it seemed to be a slow day for the Raleigh-area hunters. Some speculated that the flooding in the area had disrupted the deer's normal travel routines, making them harder to find.

As time went by and dusk fell, one member of the party managed to get a doe just as the hunting day drew to a close. It

was a delighted crew that drove to the Saline County check-in station at the Pawn and Gun Shop in Harrisburg.

While the party had found slim pickings, it was obvious that other Saline Countians had not. The station was doing a booming business, with men and women, still in blaze orange and still excited, checking in their deer and reliving the thrill of the hunt.

While there were several deer checked in with impressive racks, does were there in abundance, too. One hunter was heard enthusiastically talking about his plans to take his trophy to his taxidermist, with the idea that he would have it measured for the record book. Another, asked by check-in personnel, "Is that your female fawn?" replied, "Yes, but I prefer to think of it as a world-class female buck."

In all, Saline County hunters checked in some 488 deer during the first three days of the firearms season. Although that number isn't terribly impressive, it does suggest that there will be plenty of deer left for next year's hunters. Perhaps it's time to start planning the first annual Raleigh Deer Festival?



Guy Tanner, left, and Ralph Aly work at making barbecue sandwiches for sale at the Pope County Deer Festival. The event, and the Southeastern Illinois deer population, draws hunters from many states.

Rural insurance

Recently it has been brought to our attention that Cooperative members have once again received information about medical insurance. The questionnaire and policy currently being distributed has been underwritten by the Reserve National Insurance Company, and it suggests that rural electric

cooperatives endorse the product.

We would like to inform everyone that Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative is not affiliated with this organization and has not made any such insurance available to its members through this or any other company.

New members of your cooperative

Welcome to all new SEIEC members who officially became a part of the cooperative family in September 1993!

Susan L. Adams
James M. Dillon
Leonard Jennings
Michael Laird
Sean Monday
John D. Kelso Jr.
Gary W. Roper
Christini Stambulski
Frank Thomas
Sherry J. Wall
Alan Andrews
Ellen M. Boyd
James Carr
Denise Douglas
Karla Hardin
Glen D. Johnson
Phillip McIntosh Sr.
Lily M. Rachmactej
Hallie D. Solomon Jr.
Danny R. Thomas
David Adamson
Thomas W. Hagen

Tim Wier
Carl F. Dresback
Larry R. Barger
James E. Cherry
Carl Emerson
Jerry R. Field
Tim Girtman
Herbert D. Becker
William H. Fricker
P.J. Kalicki
Marion Lappin
Elizabeth A. Oxford
James R. Phillips
Arthur N. Seigworth
Kenneth D. Stewart
William R. Tutor
John P. Weston
Rebecca D. Wright
James P. Brunsch
Darrel L. Conley
Linda Fairleigh
Oldrich Hostalek

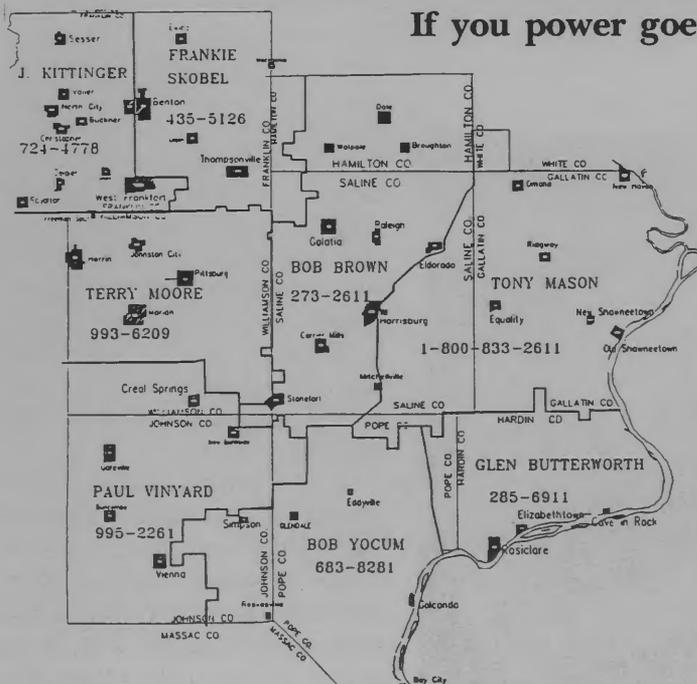
John D. Krmpotich
Carla S. Quertermous
Stephen R. Sinkhorn
Derl D. Spees
Velma Jean Tolson
Edward L. Owen
Glen Heusner
Thomas E. Beavers
Charles Lee Jones
Stacy R. Boswell
Bill G. Cobb
Richard K. Evans
Herb Flannell
Mary Griffith
Mark W. Dallas
Marshall Giant
Cynthia R. Kitchen
James G. Lytle
David R. Parkhurst
David E. Rogers
Dorothy Sherwood
James D. Stratman

David Vaughn
Richard Zsido
Michelle Benematti
Donna J. Calloni
James W. Donithan
Peggy D. Gunter
Claude Howard
Mont P. Laughlin
Tom Rabbitt
Wendell T. Smith
Mary Tayon
Thomas L. Yonts
Carmen L. Eady
Mark Stram
Dudley Burkland
Kenneth A. Baldeser
Debbie Chamberlain
Gary Droit
James L. Ferrell
Roger B. Frailey
Charles L. Holmes
Roger Huettemann

Thomas Lewis
Eldo A. Meeks
Bobby W. Quertermous
Tim Shover
Alice Spears
James W. Starnes
Warren Weber
Willena J. Johnson
Kevin McKee
John Patterson
Charles Richerson
Mildred E. Singleton
Beatrice Spears
Jackson W. Taylor Jr.
Jamie Gillmore
Clyde E. Juenger
George McPherson III
B.H. Pool
Scott C. Shelton
Rhonda J. Smith
Alfred Stanley
Kenny R. Troxell

Power Outage

If you power goes off, we offer these suggestions:



1. Check the fuses or circuit breakers in your service panels. If you have breakers, make sure they are in the "ON" position.
2. If you have a meter pole, check the main breaker panel just below the meter socket. If the breaker is in the "OFF" position, check all of your wiring from the meter pole to your various buildings. If the wiring appears to be okay, reset the breaker to the "ON" position.
3. If you still do not have power, check with neighbors to see if they have power.
4. To report a power failure or other emergency, please phone 1-800-833-2611 or 273-2611. These phone numbers are monitored around the clock, 365 days per year to accept your outage and emergency calls.
5. In the event that you are unable to contact the Cooperative at either of the above numbers, you may call the home of your area serviceman on weekdays (from 4:30 p.m. through 7:30 a.m.) or on weekends to report outages or emergencies. If you do not receive an answer or if the phone is busy, please call 1-800-833-2611 or 273-2611 (COLLECT) to report your outage or emergency situation.
6. Please be prepared to give the party answering your call the account name and location number as it appears on the envelope that contains your billing tickets.

1-800-833-2611



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Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative Eldorado, Illinois



General Manager's Comments

James M. "Mick" Cummins

"I think that I shall never see a poem lovely as a tree." These words, from the poem entitled "Trees" and penned by poet Joyce Kilmer, express the way many of us feel about trees, and rightfully so, for few plants contribute more to our quality of life than do trees.

Trees provide building materials for our homes, medicine for our ailments and function as filters for the air we breathe.

They provide habitat for wildlife and, if planted correctly, can help to both cool and warm our homes. They also improve the appearance of our residences and surroundings and protect our local, as well as the global environment.

Yet with all of their advantages, your Cooperative spends hundreds of thousands of dollars annually cutting and trimming trees. Why? It's certainly not because we dislike trees. The answer lies simply in the fact that trees are conductors and can carry electric current much the same as the bare metal wires which are strung across the countryside to provide power to you and your neighbors.

Trees are not really good conductors like copper and aluminum, but when they grow tall enough to come into contact with bare power lines, they provide a sufficient path for the electricity to return to earth, resulting in a variety of electrical service problems including outages and blinking or dimming lights. When trees are wet their ability to conduct is improved and the likelihood

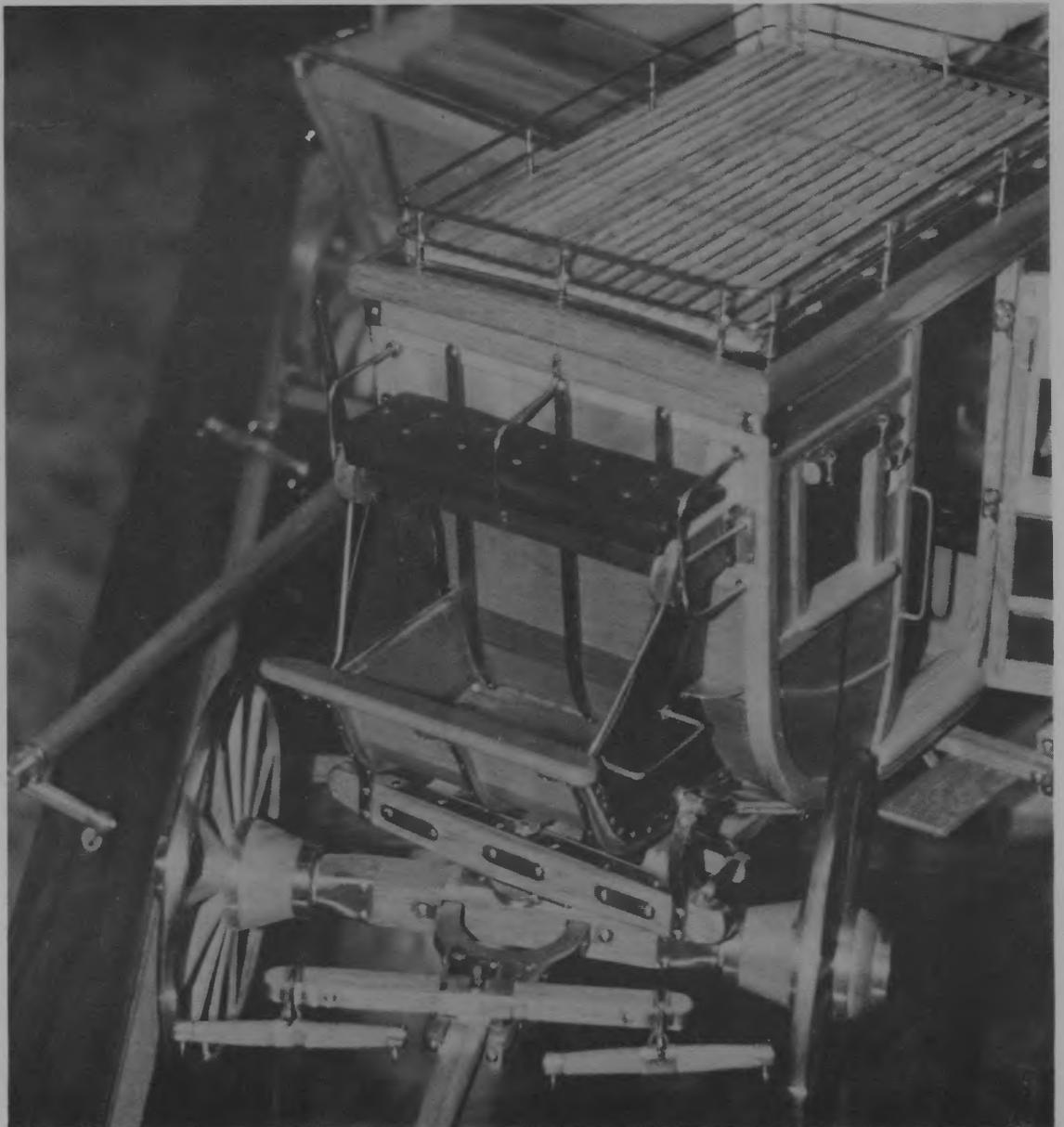
of blinking, dimming and outages is increased.

To provide quality electric service, it is necessary to keep trees and limbs clear of power line conductors. Certainly this is no easy task considering your Cooperative is currently trimming about 76,800 trees spread out over some 3,100 miles of power lines.

Southeastern uses the "natural" method of tree trimming endorsed by the National Arbor Association. This method results in a trim cycle of four to five years when adequate initial clearance is obtained, resulting in a healthy tree which is a benefit to both the Cooperative and the property owner. This method differs in appearance from the "rounding over" method used in the past which resulted in frequent retrims and unhealthy trees.

Some of the 76,800 trees we've been trimming are diseased, deformed or otherwise hazardous trees which hopefully we will be able to cut and eliminate from our schedule over the next few years. If you have a tree or trees at your home which fall into the above category, please give Bob Kielhorn a call at 1-800-833-2611, extension 165 and talk with him about our "Swap-a-Tree" program which provides for replacement lawn trees to be set away from power lines where we can all enjoy them.

Best wishes to you and your family in the coming year and as always, "We'll keep the lights on for you."



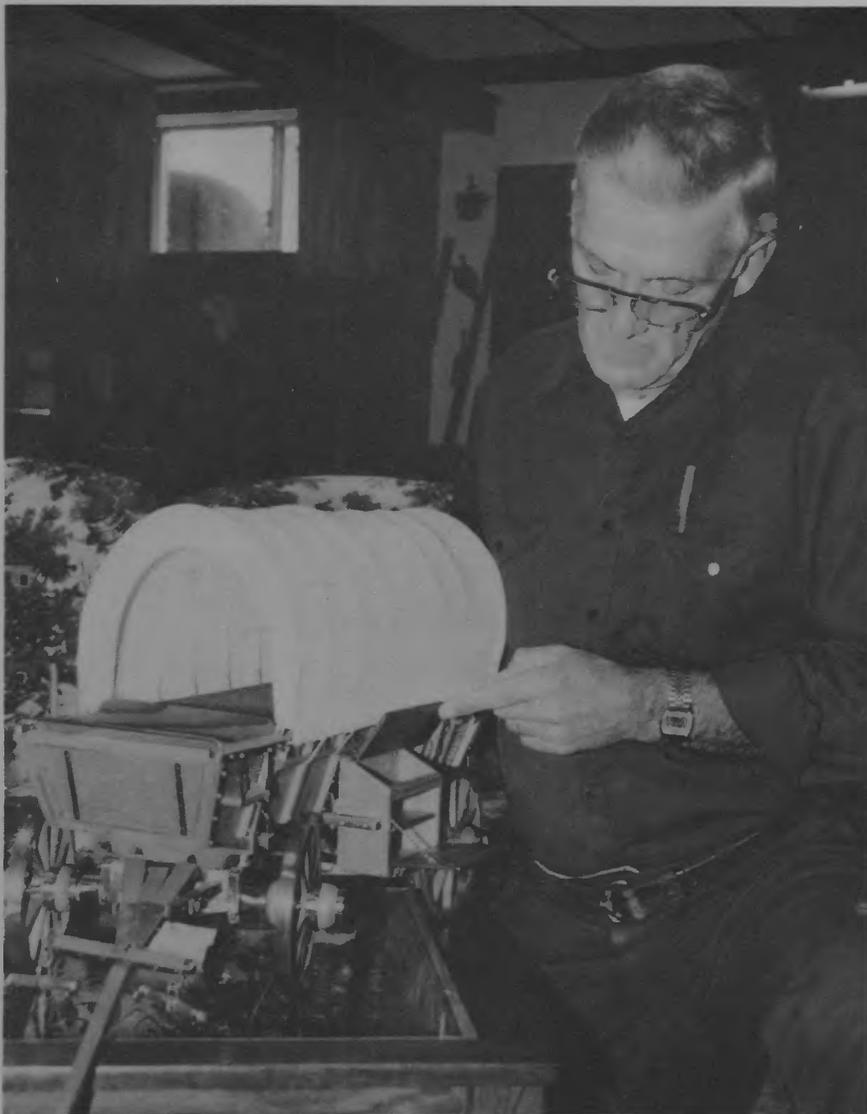
The detail work on the stagecoach is impressive. Note the tufted leather driver's seat, the suspension and the latticework on the top.

Westward roll the mini-wagons!

Most people don't give a great deal of thought about how the suspension on old stagecoaches worked, but Ronald Travelstead did. Travelstead, a maintenance man for Unit 2 School District in Marion, wanted to build a model of a stagecoach, and he wanted to get it right.

"We'd never seen a real one," his wife Barbara says, "and we didn't know where to go to look for one, either. So we decided we'd try to do the next best thing: We'd watch TV."

The plan was to tune in a western. When a stagecoach drove into view, they'd give it a good gander, paying particular



Travelstead shows the "kitchen" on his finely detailed wagon. Such a cabinet would hold pots, pans and staples, with the folded-down front serving as a work surface. He spent a winter's worth of spare time on this little jewel.

attention to its underpinnings.

It should be noted that Travelstead built the stagecoach a few years ago, before the present-day resurgence of the horse opera, and they had a little trouble getting glimpses.

"You wouldn't believe how hard it was to find a western movie for a long time there," says Barbara, who works as a cook at the Unit 2 Schools, "and when we did manage to find one, we were a little surprised at how seldom there was a stagecoach scene in it."

"And when there was," Travelstead says, picking up the narrative, "it's amazing how lit-

tle they showed and how quickly it went by. They hardly ever showed an angle that helped."

Even so, he got a beauty of a stagecoach built, and it has leather "springs" much like the originals must have had. But while he set out to make his stagecoach as realistic as possible, he built his with a removable roof, to show off the finely detailed interior.

If you "pop the top" on the little beauty, you can see the neatly rolled-up window blinds, the tufted seats and the nicely upholstered headliner. "The windows have two sets of blinds," Travelstead says, "and

the inner ones are made of cloth. I imagine they'd have been used as sun shades. There were blinds on the outside, too, and I guess you'd call them weather blinds. My inner blinds are made of cloth, and the outer ones are leather, just like they would have been on a real stagecoach. The upholstery's all leather, too."

There's also a tiny latch to hold the door shut. And the outside boasts a fair amount of hardware, much of it made from copper tubing. There are grab rails to help passengers climb aboard, axle mounting hardware, and rails around the top to contain luggage that might have bounced around. There's a rear "trunk" with a leather cover. The rear-wheel brakes work.

While stagecoaches were the high-speed transit of their day, tickets were expensive, and passengers could not take much carry-on baggage with them. Most travelers who didn't walk or travel by horseback took wagons, and Travelstead built a fine wagon much like those used by thousands of families as they settled America.

While it is not quite as elaborate as the coach, it has all the fittings that might have been on the real thing: everything's just smaller.

There are water kegs on one side, and a cabinet on the other. "They say that's where people kept their flour and other staples," Travelstead says, "and the front hinged down to provide a work surface. Mine does that, too."

The wheels on both vehicles are made of oak, which was popular because of its strength. "I built them piece by piece, just as blacksmiths used to make 'em years ago," Travelstead says, "right down to heating up the bands around 'em so they'd tighten up."

The wagon, which is the least complicated of the two projects,

was the first to be built, and might have been a warmup project for the stagecoach. "It took about all of a winter to make it," he says, "and the stagecoach, with its upholstery and suspension and all, took the better part of two winters. They're made mostly of oak, with some maple and a little hickory. The veneer on the stagecoach is the outer layer of some birch plywood. I couldn't find any as thin as I needed, so I kind of planed it down."

The Travelsteads have a coffee table made of oak and glass that

also serves as a showcase for the wagon and stagecoach, and a nearby lamp, nearly 6' tall, graces their family room. It contains some flower arrangements and birds. "Our son, Mark, said I ought to put a couple of birds in the upper part," Travelstead says, "and since he does taxidermy, he offered to provide a couple of mounted quail. It turned out that he got busy and didn't get them ready in time. I bought some from a flower shop instead, and they add a nice touch, but they didn't really look authentic."

No newcomer to woodworking, Travelstead notes that he's been interested in fine hardwoods for as long as he can remember. A fine bookcase in the living room attests to his long-term enthusiasm. "I built that in a shop class when I was in high school," he says.

And he's not the only Travelstead that's interested. He shows off a fine gun cabinet Mark made a few years ago, and notes that Mark's work is hard to beat. Before long we may be seeing a fine combination of hardwood and taxidermy!

New members of your cooperative

Welcome to all new SEIEC members who officially became a part of the cooperative family in November 1993!

Clint W. Bishop
Carmen Crawford
Earl M. Gaskins
Richard Hargraves
Rodney Hoffard
John R. Jones
Scott E. Lefler
Glenda Lyerla
Patty Russell
Ronald K. Thompson
Elizabeth Allen

Lou Ann Holloway
Michael S. McRoy
Robert L. Proctor
Angela Taylor
Stephen Russell
Lanzie M. Baker III
Brian Schuetz
Steven K. Carter
Larry Deniston
James H. Gnade
Gary D. Hawk Jr.

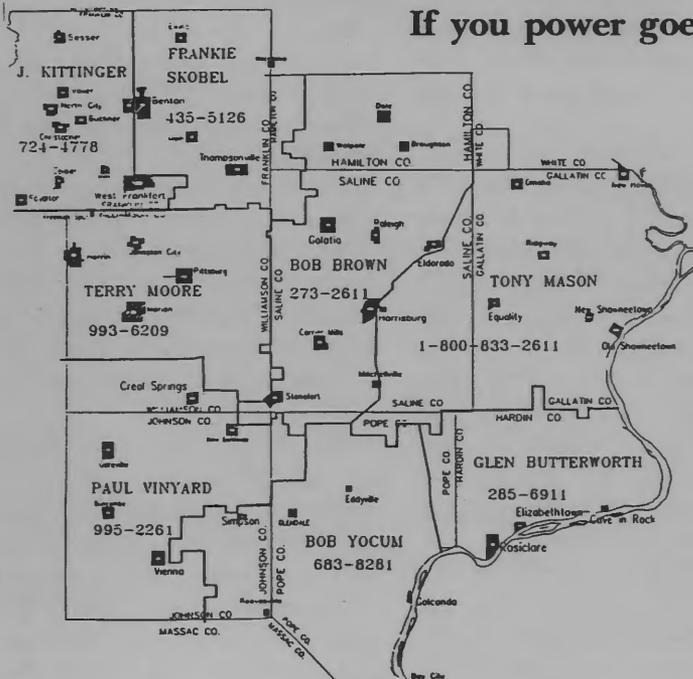
Mark Hunter
Jerry Knight
Robert D. Legan
James V. Mattingly
Mary Ann Stefko
Robert Wilkins
Darlene Brown
Robert Johnson
Bernie Pellack
Shelter Financial Ser.
Lincoln W. Welser

Tony Sayer
Don McChesney
Patricia E. Martin
Danny L. Chamness
Leonard D. French Jr.
Robert L. Gribble
John M. Herbert
Thomas R. Johnson
Linda M. Lampert
David P. Lingle
Mark C. Reed

Tim Thomas
Garrison Mott
David G. Harrington
Anthony P. Lewis
Layman E. Priddy
Southern Resource Tra
Roger L. Young
BJ Diesel & Auto
Anthony L. Rinella

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Several months ago this column addressed the issue of Electric and Magnetic Fields, or as they are commonly known "EMFs." EMFs exist not only around power lines, but also around and adjacent to household appliances, as well as the wiring located within the walls of your home.

Numerous research studies have been conducted on the subject, but to date, they have been contradictory and inconclusive. Some initial studies were later found to have used flawed methodology and are now considered invalid by most members of the scientific community. Unfortunately, a few of these very studies have been dramatized and have succeeded in creating an environment of fear where emotions can overrule logic.

There have even been accusations of a gigantic conspiracy concocted by all the electric suppliers in the country to withhold EMF information from the general public. Nothing could be father from the truth.

As an electric cooperative, it is our business to sell energy, but if there is a problem with our product, we want to know it, we want the members of Southeastern to know it, and we want it fixed.

Informational pamphlets on EMF are available in the lobby of Southeastern's Eldorado headquarters and are also available by mail (free of charge) to any member so requesting. In addition, although no threshold of safety for EMF exposure has been established, members interested in obtaining more information on the subject of home measurements should contact Manager of Member Services, Ray Harbison, at 1-800-833-2611, extension 163.

Southeastern is committed to EMF research and is voluntarily sharing in the support of a new five-year study. This study, known as the National Electric and Magnetic Field Research and Information Program, will utilize scientific methodology to approach the issue and is intended to determine if EMF problems do exist and to answer questions of public concern.

Southeastern will continue to update its membership on the progress of the study, and we reaffirm our position that of all the competing energy sources readily available today (natural gas, propane and oil), electricity is, by far, the safest of the group. Best wishes to each and every Member in the upcoming year and as always, "We'll keep the lights on for you."



Don is pictured with the two log cabin replicas he built, both of which depict real cabins that were built in the Golconda area years ago. The models are displayed at the Not So New shop on Main Street in Golconda.

Don Barger — Cabin builder

Don Barger has managed to keep busy since he retired from SEIEC three years ago, and Pope County History enthusiasts are beneficiaries of some of his efforts. So is a church in Florida.

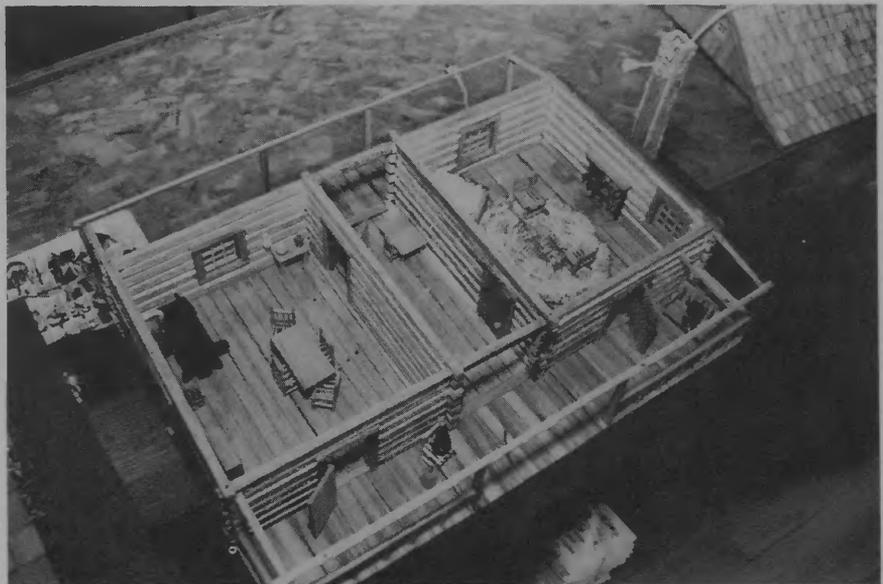
"Keeping busy's not a problem at all when the weather's nice," Don says with a chuckle, "but sometimes time starts dragging when it's not. Then I have to look for something to do."

His "something to do" has provided a couple of nice replica cabins, and one of the full-size cabins was reconstructed in Golconda with Don's help. Both buildings were log cabins, and both were built years ago in or near the town.

"One was the Davidson cabin," Don says, "and it was a little thing, maybe 18 by 24 feet or so. The other, the Conrad

house, was bigger. When we put the Davidson house on a lot near my home, I got the idea to build a replica, so people could see it

as it looked. I wanted to make it small enough that it could be put indoors somewhere, too. And I decided that it'd be more ap-



This is a replica of the Conrad house, which is bigger than the Davidson cabin. Don built the model and all the furnishings.

propriate if I built it from scraps of the house itself. We had used redwood shingles, and there were a lot of pieces around, so that was what I used."

With the experience he'd gained building the small cabin, Don decided to try a replica of the bigger one, but with a difference. "I decided to put a removable roof on the Conrad house," he says, "so you can see all the furnishings inside. And I put lights in it, too. While the little cabin has furniture, it's built in and you can't really see it. The house also has the same kind of ceiling beams the real one did."

If you look into the Conrad house, you can see a cookstove, a fireplace, and even a dish towel hanging on a handy peg. There's a woodbox, a table and chairs in the kitchen, a feather bed in the bedroom, and other furnishings, too. A tiny butter churn on the porch has a two-piece dasher that can be removed. There are porch swings, and Don notes that the two tiny people on them are the only things he didn't make.

If there were some way to enlarge the house, it'd be ready to move into.

Both little cabins are on display at the Not So New shop in Golconda, which also serves as a tourist information center and chamber of commerce under the guidance of Mildred McCormick.

Barger, who started work at the co-op in 1968, worked with a forestry crew in Golconda, starting when the co-op worked out of a small building on Main Street. He retired in February, 1991, and spends much of his free time fishing when the weather's nice. It's when it's cold and windy and rainy and snowy that he sets out to find something else to do.

For a long time, he passed time making furniture: a nice china cabinet — his first major work — sits in the Barger dining room, although Don notes that he's not particularly proud of it,

since pieces he's built since have been much nicer.

"I managed to keep busy making furniture for our three daughters and our son," he says with a laugh, "and I can still make just about anything for one of them and they'll take it. I built our kitchen cabinets, too."

A major project now, he adds, is a replica of the house his wife Bonnie grew up in not far from Golconda, where both of them were born and raised. "Between the two of us," Bonnie says, "I guess we're related to just about everybody in Pope and Hardin counties."

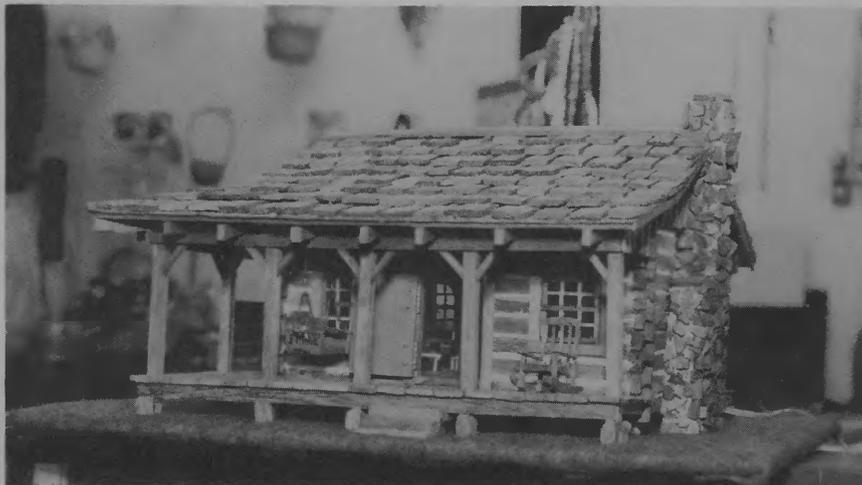
She notes that she has worked for several years as an RN for Home Health, and that she has come into contact with many people. "I'm getting to where I'll see someone and wonder for a minute: 'Is that a patient, a former patient, or a relative?' It's really strange, but I guess just about everyone I see anymore comes in one category or another."

At any rate, her "old home place" is coming along pretty well, Don says, and he keeps it in the house to work on it because his workshop's cooler and it takes longer for the glue to dry. Another problem is slowing construction, too. They don't know that much about the place, which burned about 10 years ago.

"Would you know," Bonnie asks incredulously, "that there isn't anybody in the family who has a picture of the whole house? We're building the replica from incomplete photos and memory, but we think it's going to be pretty close to the real thing."

A couple of years ago he found something else to help him pass the time: he went with several other Golconda residents — members of the Golconda First Baptist Church — to help with disaster relief in Florida. They went to Cutler Ridge, in Southern Florida, to feed people who were trying to rebuild their homes ravaged by Hurricane Andrew. "We fed an average of 1,000 people a day," Don says, "and we'd get up at about 4-5 a.m. and get started, and it'd be about 10 p.m. when we'd get done with cleanup. We slept in sleeping bags in the Baptist Church there, and operated our kitchen there, too. It had been damaged, but it was okay to stay in."

He notes that the people were so grateful for the help they'd received that they invited the workers back about a year later for a rededication of the church, as well as a picnic lunch. "Working in the disaster relief effort was an interesting experience," Don says, "and we really enjoyed it. And it was nice to go back down and see the rebuilt building."



The Davidson cabin was small, about 18 by 24 feet. Don helped rebuild the real cabin on a lot in Golconda, then built this model from scraps.

New members of your cooperative

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Michael S. Adams
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Michael H. Bell
Amber Jackson Boyd
Peggy Burnett
Angela N. Cochran
Edward R. Dibble
Bobby Dunn
Larry H. Elkins
Lisa Eubanks
Tony Lee Hall
Jim Holland
Eugene F. Jacobs
Tammy Johnson
Spencer Kunath
Gerald A. May
Ida M. Morris
Eric Owen
James E. Poole
Byron A. Romanek
David Stewart
Harley E. Ward
Patricia C. Willis
Nancy Wright
Elaina M. Toms
Charles Mischeaux
William E. Russell Jr.
Teresa Arbeiter
James T. Delbene
Robert Allen
Charles Barnes
Jeff Blades
Alan D. Brand
Andrea G. Cantrell
Elton Colver
Harlen Drew
Timothy M. Duvall
Scott Engler

Marlena Gibbs
Tommy Hickey
Bill Jackson
Tina Jacobus
Michael J. Keller
Lashaunda McDaniel
Sheryl L. Mezo
Richard L. O'Halloran
Richard Pickering
Scott W. Priddy
Bonnie J. Sanders
Francis B. Stubbs
Hazel Warren
Bradley W. Winters
Michael Albright
Susie Hamlin
Gwyneth L. Pocic
Beltran Ybara Jr.
James C. Baker
Doyle E. Fox
Larry Anderson
Karl Behnken
Michael B. Blades
Jerry Bryant
Joe Clardy
John Daymon
Mary Ann Driver
Samuel Eaves
Helen English
Lucille Gourley
Jamie Hobbs
Kenneth Jackson
Robert S. James
William Kitterman II
Doris Mand
Pamela L. Moore
James W. Oliver
Joseph Plumley

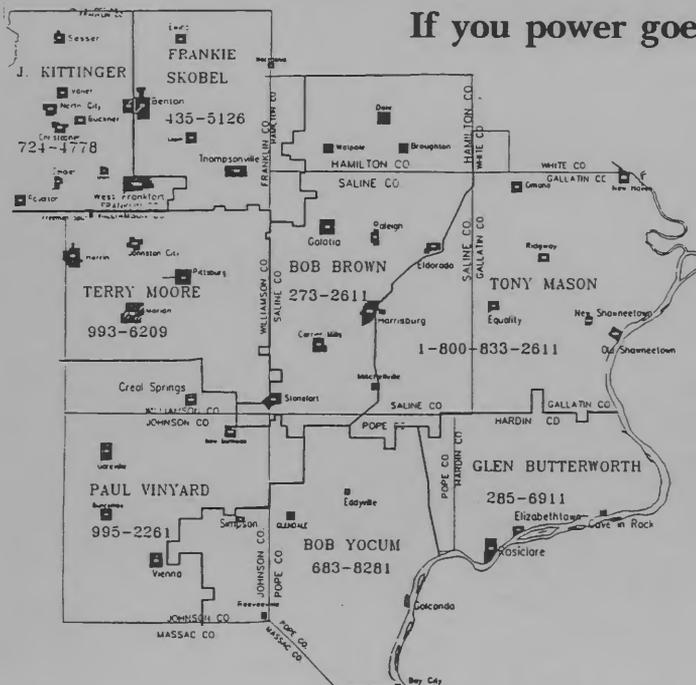
Ronald V. Rioux
Ross J. Stanley
James Walker
Amy Westrich
Kristy L. Woolsey
Ronald L. Thomas
Joe McGuire
Tim Phillips
Bobby G. Adams
William D. Boyd
Dewayne Gulley
Richard Hearn
Debra Odle
Dan Schmechel
Samuel D. Simmons
Bryce West
Patricia Palmer
Sheila K. Allen
David Carlock
Jerry Ray Loyd
Elaine C. Pratt
Armando Quintaniolla
Viann Busche
Paul M. Hargraves
James Jones
Jeramyah Lamore
Jerry R. Penrod
Keith Turner
B. Eckardt
Gregory M. Clark
Randall Atlee
Julie Motsinger
Andrew Jay Daniels
Art Pieroni
Gary Woodard
Royse-Miller
Reaco Battery Service
Sunrise Exploration

Mike Barnfield
Lenora Brown
Robert K. Hudnell
Angela M. Paul
W.E. Schwartz
Calvin E. Stewart
John M. Sullivan
William C. Bratten
Jerry Atchison
Mary Osterhout
Penny Hufford
Michael J. Dawe
Lloyd A. Beardsley
Donetta M. Clayton
Anitra Irvin
Darrell Kaskie
Greg Lampley
Kenneth L. Tanner
Thomas G. Ward
Michael Spinks
Joe Rowland
Clarence E. McCoy
Duane Short
Floyd W. Johnson
Sue Quertermous
Michael L. Wheelan
Thomas G. Garner
Rural Pope Co. Fire
Vicky Upchurch
Susan Bates
Earl Buffington
Edward L. Miller
Leslie Russell
Roy F. Silkwood
Steven D. Sullivan
Greg L. King
Scott A. Wagner
D. Brett Beasley

Michael Grounds
Tyson Melvin
Gala Bailey
Larry Brueggert
Kristen Coartney
Joe Zsido Sales
Nora Knack
Jeffrey A. Miles
Joyce Taylor
Ronald V. Chamness
Paul A. Watkins
Sue Renshaw
Lisa F. Moore
William M. Somerfield
David L. Patton
James B. Tanner
Matt Dugy
Gemco Oil Development
Roger D. Stillely
Tammy Johnson
Lawrence Blaski
Linda Goldsberry
Juanita Grindstaff
James J. Jennings
David Shirley
James R. West Jr.
Shannon Perkins
Daniel A. Hamilton
Lee M. Larson
Carolyn Reed Stewart
Kelly Gibbs
Anthony Heneghan
George W. Long Jr.
Jackie Stewart
Raymond Clayton

Power Outage

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3. If you still do not have power, check with neighbors to see if they have power.
4. To report a power failure or other emergency, please phone 1-800-833-2611 or 273-2611. These phone numbers are monitored around the clock, 365 days per year to accept your outage and emergency calls.
5. In the event that you are unable to contact the Cooperative at either of the above numbers, you may call the home of your area serviceman on weekdays (from 4:30 p.m. through 7:30 a.m.) or on weekends to report outages or emergencies. If you do not receive an answer or if the phone is busy, please call 1-800-833-2611 or 273-2611 (COLLECT) to report your outage or emergency situation.
6. Please be prepared to give the party answering your call the account name and location number as it appears on the envelope that contains your billing tickets.

1-800-833-2611



THE SOUTHEASTERN LIGHT

Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative

Eldorado, Illinois



General Manager's Comments

James M. "Mick" Cummins

The 1990 Clean Air Act is making its presence known in Southern Illinois. Recent months have witnessed the closing of two large area coal mines, resulting in the loss of 775 jobs. Other area mines are expected to curtail or close their operations as the market for high sulfur coal is lost to the low sulfur Western variety. One of the closed mines, Peabody Eagle II, was served by your Cooperative and was the electrical equivalent of almost 3,000 homes.

The direct and indirect job loss associated with these closings will continue to plague our area for years to come. As far as Southeastern, specifically, is concerned, no rate increase is anticipated for 1994, but projected declining revenues and increasing expenses indicate an increase will probably be necessary in 1995 or 1996.

Southeastern has maintained a stable rate structure for 11 years; its last increase occurring in 1983. We believe low rates and good service are important to everyone and are critical to the prosperity of the area. Low utility rates help attract industry and jobs which are sorely needed. In addition, low rates are of utmost importance to the 50 percent of Southeastern residential members who live on fixed incomes.

Although a future rate increase seems inevitable, the impact of such

an increase can be lessened by continuing efforts to hold down expenses, and by operating efficiently and productively. Thousands of dollars have been (and are being) saved annually through such areas as bulk purchasing, the conversion from mercury vapor to high efficiency sodium lighting, and by simply squeezing more miles out of each of the Cooperative's 48 vehicles.

Last year a portion of our debt was refinanced at substantial savings. In 1994, we will evaluate prepaying our REA notes, at a discount, to determine if a significant annual savings can be obtained.

Achieving stable rates isn't something that's easily done, especially under adverse economic conditions. Ford Motor Company brags that it has five out of the top 10 selling vehicles in the nation. Southeastern is somewhat at the opposite end of the spectrum: serving five out of the top 10 counties, unemployment wise, in the state of Illinois. Tough economic conditions often require tough economic decisions. Southeastern believes each member is entitled to affordable, competitive electric rates, along with professional and dependable service. To achieve this, we are committed to operating efficiently in 1994 and beyond, and as always, "We'll keep the lights on for you."



Larry and Carol Anderson in their showroom with some of the many kinds of doors and hardware they stock.

Installing garage doors la

Home-based businesses have become more and more common over the last decade or so. For the most part, they involve arts and crafts items and the like, or bed and breakfast establishments. Farming, of course, has been a big part of the home-based business picture since the country was founded.

Larry and Carol Anderson of rural Mulkeytown have a different kind of home-grown business, and it's older than most non-farm businesses, too. They've been selling and installing garage doors out of their home for nearly 20 years.

Larry's brother, Cecil, is also involved in the business. They're from Arkansas, while Carol is a Mulkeytown native. Their operation, in fact, is now

housed in a couple of large pole barns at her grandfather's old place.

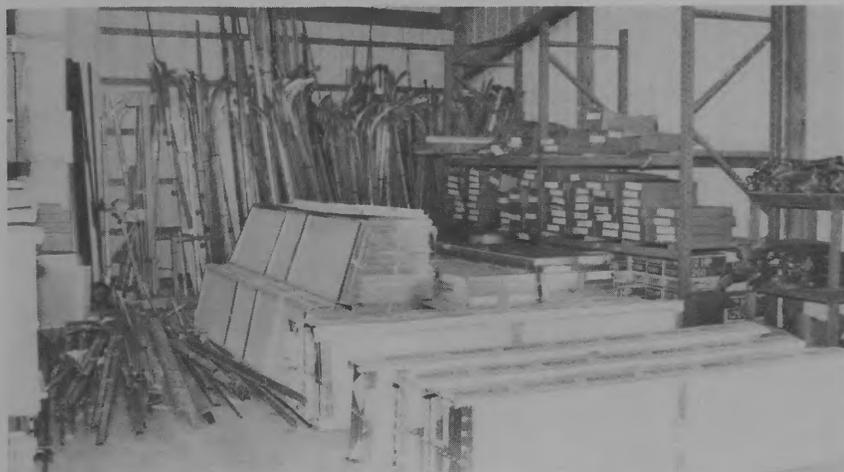
In keeping with the idea of a family business, Carol's mother, who lives nearby, helps when she's needed. "Our daughters helped too," Carol says, "because there were several years there when we worked out of our home. They answered the phone and did general office work. The oldest, Regina, is married and lives in Ft. Meade, Maryland. Kristie's taking general studies classes at John A. Logan College in Carterville."

Larry and Cecil both worked at the Overhead Door Company in Elk Grove, and the Andersons lived in Elgin. Tiring of Chicago-area congestion and breathing

visible air, Larry and Carol decided to head for Southern Illinois, where they'd operate a franchise from Overhead Door, which is a brand name. The name of their particular business is Anderson Overhead Door of Southern Illinois, and they started in 1976 in Cleburn, where they stayed for about a year.

They worked that year, while they built their house. "We wanted to build it on a 'pay-as-you-go' basis," Larry says, "so it took a little longer than you might expect. We finally got it all ready to move into, except that we didn't have any way to heat it. I wound up selling my motorcycle to get heat."

While Larry and Carol were getting a home up and running,



Clockwise from left: Part of the operation is in this small pole barn, which is filled with doors, hardware and garage-door openers. Larry and Carol with one of the three heavy-duty vans they use in the operation. Cecil with his van.

ge and small

Cecil had left the Chicago area to try Houston, Texas, then Missouri. He rejoined the family operation after about two years.

Before long, business was booming, and the Andersons put up their buildings, and installed an office in one end, to free up part of the house. As time went by, they picked up some commercial accounts; they install and service doors for UPS from Alton to Olney, and do some work for area coal mines, too. Their business is about 60 percent residential and 40 percent commercial, and they'll install anywhere from 500 to 1,000 doors in any given year.

As the business grew, it became necessary to add another employee, and Jim Hoey, a Ziegler native, joined the firm.

Now there are three vans, all painted light metallic blue, running around Southern Illinois. And they're selling a couple of brands of doors. "We sell electric door openers," Larry says, "and we'll service any brand of door or door opener, too. And we'll sell doors and hardware to people who want to install their own. The installation's fairly simple and straightforward for those who are fairly handy and who have some equipment."

The Andersons note that they can provide customers with just about any kind of materials. "Our basic product is a steel door," Carol says, "but we can provide wood or fiberglass, too. And we have several different kinds of insulation we can use."

While it seems that garage

doors come in just a few sizes, they can be built in just about any size, to enclose a little backyard shed to sizes that will easily admit a freight car. "We can install doors from about 5 feet by 6 feet up to 24 feet by 24 feet sizes, and everything in between," Larry says.

Carol finds it amusing that many people think of garage doors as a sideline, vest-pocket kind of operation. "They'll ask what we do besides garage doors, and I'll chuckle and tell them that's enough to keep us busy, and that sometimes things are so hectic that everybody's busy doing a little bit of something. But we like it that way," she adds, "because it's great to be busy doing something you enjoy."



If you depend on life-support equipment, we need to know

While SEIEC strives to maintain the best possible service with a minimum of outage time, occasional outages, either planned or uncontrolled, do occur.

We need to know the names and location of cooperative members who depend on life-support equipment. We keep a registry of members on life-support equipment, and it is important that this information be current and accurate. We will make every effort to give priority to restore service to members on life-support systems.

If you or a member of your family depend on life-support equipment, please let our office know.

Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative
 P.O. Box 251
 Eldorado, IL 62930
 Phone: 618-273-2611

New members of your cooperative

Welcome to all new SEIEC members who officially became a part of the cooperative family in January 1994!

James R. Dorris
 Tom L. Keown
 Eric G. Skees
 Shirley A. Whitehead
 Christopher R. Harner
 Roberta D. Russell
 Janie Cummings
 Dennis R. Lindsay

Richard Powers
 Linda S. Morgan
 Robert Schoenenberger
 Scotty Adams
 Tammy Sue Keefer
 Winona Griggs
 Douglas C. Miller
 Chris B. Stanley

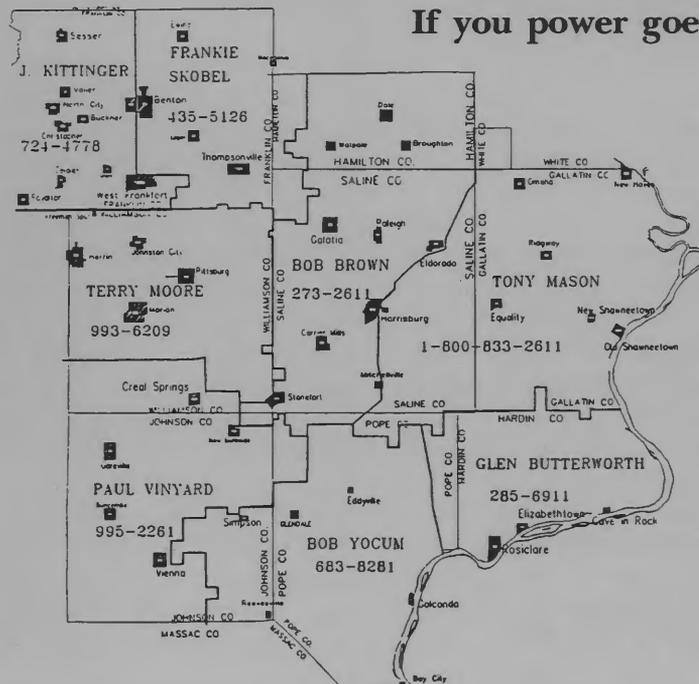
Michelle Braden
 Derrick M. Ballard
 Jonathan P. Frick
 Yvonne M. Monroe
 Melvin E. Sever
 T.A. Sprague
 Carmen Kelley
 William D. Adams

Stephen W. Vanhook
 Gary Lee Jean
 Ronnie Clark
 Dean Taylor
 James D. Duncan
 Frank E. Grant Jr.
 William J. Patterson
 Kenneth Graul

Merian J. Norris
 Jonathon Stewart
 Ronald E. Baker
 International Grain
 Ruth Hauptmann
 Jack D. Woods

Power Outage

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6. Please be prepared to give the party answering your call the account name and location number as it appears on the envelope that contains your billing tickets.

1-800-833-2611



THE SOUTHEASTERN LIGHT

Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative

Eldorado, Illinois



General Manager's Comments

James M. "Mick" Cummins

Occasionally someone asks why Southeastern, a "non-profit" corporation, finds it necessary to make a margin or "profit" for each year of operation. It's a good question, especially when considering the fact that the service an electric cooperative provides is intended to be at cost, just as in any other cooperative enterprise. The answer to the question lies in the fact that there are four primary reasons an electric cooperative strives to obtain annual margins.

First of all, your Cooperative must always be prepared to cope with a large storm or other natural disaster. Restoring electric service after such an event can be a time consuming and expensive endeavor with restoration cost which can approach \$100,000 per day for a Cooperative the size of Southeastern.

Secondly, electric cooperatives are capital intensive and most require outside financing to operate. When lenders loan money to rural electrics, they specify in the mortgage agreements that the cooperatives must generate enough revenue to repay the loans. This requirement is commonly known as "T.I.E.R." and is applicable whether the Cooperative utilizes funds borrowed from the Rural Electrification Administration or from private bankers.

Thirdly, the Cooperative must have sufficient funds on hand to pay its current operating costs. Southeastern is the largest dis-

tribution cooperative in Illinois, serving over 19,400 accounts. It has 84 employees and operates and maintains over 3,100 miles of line spread out over almost 2,250 square miles of service area. Due to its size, Southeastern's operating costs are greater than many smaller cooperatives combined. Consequently, greater annual margins are required to pay those costs and continue to improve and replace an aging electric system. In 1994, your Cooperative will spend approximately \$6,400,000 over and above its operating costs which will be used to repay debt, to purchase transformers, line trucks, meters, and other miscellaneous equipment, as well as to repair, rebuild and construct electric power lines.

Fourthly and finally, annual margins are contributions to capital and provide economical and necessary dollars which lessens the need for added debt and thus contributes to rate stability. Moreover, margins used in this matter contribute to member equity making it easier to obtain loan funds should the need arise. At the same time, it demonstrates the member-owner concept of cooperatives by allowing patronage capital to be returned on a rotation basis as deemed timely and prudent by the Cooperative's board of trustees.

One thing that margins are never
(Continued on page 12d)



The River Rose Inn, in Elizabethtown, overlooks the Ohio River. It's owned and operated by Don and Elisabeth Phillips. It has four rooms and a separate cottage, as well as a swimming pool and Jacuzzi.

B & Bs? We've got 'em!

Bed and breakfast establishments are cropping up like mushrooms after a spring rain, and SEIEC has its fair share. This month we'll feature three of them in the southern part of our service area, and will feature others as the opportunity arises. While two of the ones we visited are in very old buildings, one is brand new. Most have been in business for just a few years: not an unusual thing, when you consider that the B & B idea is a new one in the U.S.

The River Rose Inn, at One Main Street, Elizabethtown, is in a mansion built in 1914 and occupied by Ed Wall as a private residence. Wall was the great-grandson of James McFarlan, who built the Rose Hotel, which is across the street and was for many years the oldest operating hotel in Illinois.

McFarlan, who built the Rose in the early 1800s, named the town after his wife, Elizabeth.

The place was purchased a few years ago by Don and Elisabeth Phillips, who had operated a couple of B & Bs in

Eureka Springs, Arkansas before coming here. They came to Elizabethtown by a roundabout route, and in an odd way, Don says.

"Elisabeth's from Montreal, in Canada," he says, "and I'm from Dallas, Texas. I'd worked for several years in the Silicon Valley area in California's San Francisco Bay area, as a consultant to firms starting up in the semiconductor business. We then operated the B & Bs in Arkansas, and set out to find a place closer to Elisabeth's family. We looked in Nova Scotia and Maine, and didn't have any luck.

"We happened to look in one of those national real estate publications," he continues, "and we saw that there was a big, beautiful house for sale in Elizabethtown, Illinois. My wife urged me to look at it, and I didn't want any part of it. Frankly, I had a negative idea of Illinois, in that I thought it was all flat and cornfields. We came anyway, and I can't tell you what a surprise it was to me to

see all the scenery 'here. We fell in love with the place, and bought it specifically to turn it into a B & B."

The River Rose Inn features four rooms, each with its own bath, and each with a different theme. There is a cottage behind the main house. A large swimming pool, patio, porch and Jacuzzi round out the picture. ■

Bonnie Barger is the Inn-keeper at the Silk Stocking Inn, a beautiful old home on Columbus Street (Silk Stocking Row), in Goldonda. The inn is owned by Dan Wede, an insurance field representative who lives in Massac County. Barger, a Pope County native, has been in the tourism business for several years, and treats every guest as family.

The house, built in the 1850s, has been completely renovated in country Victorian decor, in keeping with the splendor of the times. There are three sleeping rooms, one a two-room suite with a Jacuzzi, and each has its own bath. As the name implies,

breakfast is served, and is made up of what Bonnie calls a "Deluxe continental." The baked goods are provided by the Mansion Inn, another historic establishment just down the street, and there are other selections too, of course.

The house is sprinkled with antiques and craft items, placed by local shops, for sale. ■

The House of Nahum differs from the other two in that it's a new building, built from the ground up to be a B & B. Sona Thomas, who was born in Danville but considers Rudement home, built the inn after living for many years in Colorado and California. A deeply religious person, she prayed at some length to find out what her destiny was, and decided that it was to return home — she wanted to anyway — and to build a B & B.

"I was walking in the woods right behind the house, before there was a house," she says, "and I was pondering what to name it, and God told me to call it "The House of Nahum, which means peace or serenity."

She set out to build her place, on land purchased from Bob Butterworth, another returnee who'd been gone for years. "He was developing his Sally Holler Estates," she says, "and this place offered me the perfect setting for my B & B."

Her oldest son, David, a carpenter, did the architecture for the 4,000-square-foot structure, which has three — or four in a pinch — units. One is a magnificent honeymoon suite, with a Jacuzzi for two and a view of the Shawnee National Forest. The building is designed so each room has its own bath.

She has definite ideas of what a good bed and breakfast should be, and hers doesn't include a lot of television. "There's a great room" she says, and there's a good-sized TV there. The individual rooms don't have their own sets. Part of the idea is to get people to interact with other



The House of Nahum is new, and was built from the ground up to be a B & B. Owned and operated by Sona Thomas, it has three units, but one more can be made available for special occasions. It's located in Rudement.

guests, and part is just to get away from the world's cares. In fact, there's a big sunroom, where people can gather and do puzzles and play games. there's a big wraparound porch for people to sit on, too."

Her property backs up to the Shawnee National Forest, offering a beautiful view of the woods and animal life there. "I tell people it's 'nestled in the woods neighboring the Shawnee
(Continued on page 12d)



The Silk Stocking Inn is located in Golconda, an historic riverfront town. Owned by Dan Wede, it's operated by Bonnie Barger. It offers three sleeping rooms, one of which is a two-room suite with a Jacuzzi.

Comments

(Continued from page 12a)
used for is stock dividends for absentee investors. At South-eastern each member-owner is an equal investor in the corporation regardless of their

financial stature, and patronage refunds are allocated solely on a member's electrical usage in any given year.

There you have it, four brief explanations of why annual

margins are necessary. If you need more information on the subject, feel free to call toll free at 1-800-833-2611. Until then, "We'll keep the lights on for you."

B & B's

(Continued from page 12b)

National Forest," she says. She's working to get a gazebo built in the not-too-distant future near the little creek that flows by the house, and already does weddings there.

"I love antiques," she says, "and I have people who put

antiques and craft items in the rooms and other places, so my guests can buy them. I don't make any money from them, but they add a nice touch to the decor."

Unlike many bed and breakfast establishments, she has an addition to her "product line," in that she has tea parties and other functions.

These three bed and breakfast establishments are just of a few served by Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative, and they represent a type of business that offers a lot of possibilities for our area. We'd like to know if there are more members out there operating B & Bs, so we can feature them too.

New members of your cooperative

Welcome to all new SEIEC members who officially became a part of the cooperative family in February 1994!

Rudy J. Bond
Steven J. King
Wm. D. Sneed
Walter Leonberger
Dustin Bell
Larry E. Davies
Nickole Marini
John C. Terry
Vanessa Braden
David Bronecke

Billie McDonnough
Gary L. Belcher
Edna M. Duncan
Steven Naumann
Raul Zavala
John H. Napier
Melody Davis
Richard L. Peer
Dennis L. Pearce
Vivian Oxford

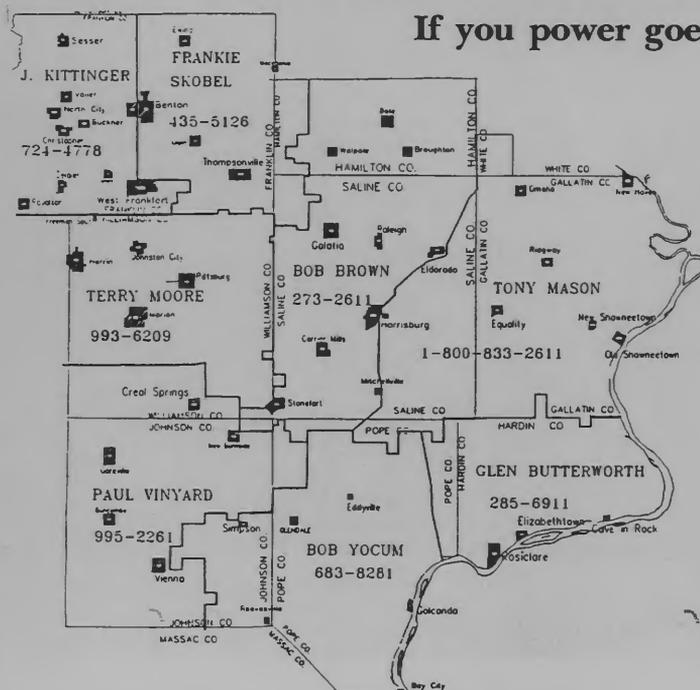
Richard Burgess
Kelly Johnson
Dora Ralph
Sherry Tyler-Gibson
David K. Grogan
Charles A. Carr
John Robbins
Angie R. Burlison
Ellis Pork Inc.
Janes N. Parker

Billy Jo Adamson
Bonnie Bianco
Larry E. Garielph
Robert Shane Shoupe
Patsy Sue Cowser
William L. Risley
Kelly Daily
Jerry L. McSparin
J. Mark Tennant
Alan Scott Akin

Peggy Lynn Nelson
Jerry T. Fricker
David Shadowens
Steven Colboth
Kimberly Susa Murrach
Wade Swinford
Greg Dunn

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1-800-833-2611



THE SOUTHEASTERN LIGHT

Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative Eldorado, Illinois

General Manager's Comments

James M. "Mick" Cummins



Survey results:

Some 2,000 Southeastern customers responded to a one page survey questionnaire asking members their opinion on new services being considered by the Cooperative.

As you may recall, there had been considerable member interest expressed in two services in particular: (1) Automatic Meter Reading and Outage Notification and (2) Continuously Monitored Home Security.

The key question at Southeastern was, "Is there a sufficient number of potential participants in the proposed new services to allow the Cooperative to recover the cost of providing them?"

Only 4 percent of those responding to the survey indicated they were willing to pay an additional \$5 per month for an electronic device that would automatically read the member's meter each month, and in addition, would automatically notify the Cooperative in the event of a power failure affecting the meter's location.

Some 6 percent of those members responding to the survey indicated they would be willing to pay an additional \$22 per month for a continuously monitored home security system which could protect their homes from loss due to break-ins, fire, water, or heating system failures and also could provide "medic alert" emergency medical

notification. Interestingly, some 16 percent said they would install such a system within three years if it was available.

While the results of the survey do not measure up to the 10 percent needed to make the introduction of electronic meter reading or home security systems feasible, they do indicate a significant interest and imply that there may be some merit in reapproaching these two areas sometime in the future.

Our thanks to everyone who participated in the survey and a "special thanks" to those members who took the time to add hand written comments on the survey forms, and "As always, we'll keep the lights on for you."

Thinking about gas?

Members who are currently using electricity to heat and who are considering a switch to gas, are advised to investigate thoroughly before making the conversion. Recent advertisements inferring that it's cheaper to heat with gas are just not true in all cases. New high efficiency air-to-air heat pumps can reduce heating costs by as much as 50 percent when used to replace existing electric furnaces and baseboard heaters. In addition, these units when used to replace older air

(Continued on page 12d)

John D. Harrington displays the clock he built as a woodworking project, to keep busy during retirement. The clock has 1,825 cutouts. John D. spent 102 hours sawing the holes and 100 hours gluing everything together.

Five-foot clock is major project

John D. Harrington farmed all his life on the place his great-grandfather bought years ago for \$2.50 an acre. As time went by, he decided to retire. If there was one thing he knew about retirement, it was that he didn't want to just sit around watching television. Without a great deal of planning, he decided to start monkeying around with woodworking.

"I'd bought a jigsaw and a few small tools," he relates, "and I talked to a friend who was a real woodworking enthusiast, and told him I was thinking of getting a little more serious about the hobby."

The friend encouraged him, then asked what he had in the line of equipment. When John D. spelled out what he had, the friend snorted. "Why you don't have anything! What you ought



to do is go out right now and buy a lathe, a bandsaw, a router, a scroll saw and a radial arm saw or table saw. Then you'll be ready to get started."

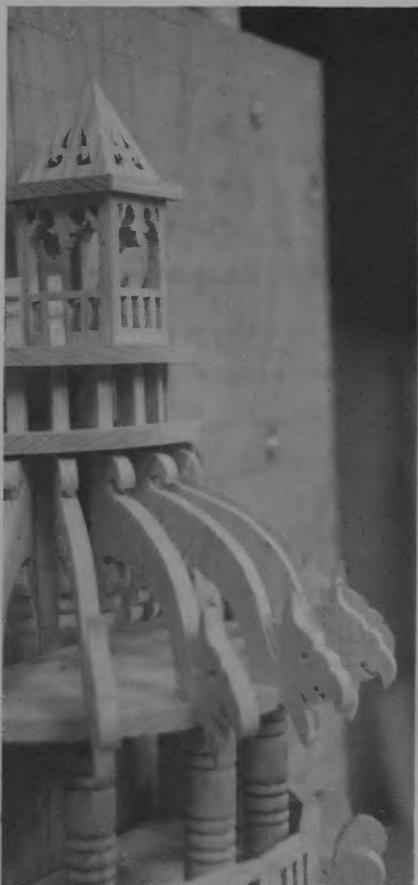
"I took him at his word," John D. says, "and I went out the next day and bought all those things, and got into woodworking in a big way."

He also got into clockmaking in a big way. After he'd been into woodworking for years, he saw a picture of an enormous and really ornate clock, and plans were offered for those who wanted to make their own. "I knew the minute I saw it that I had to try it," he says. So now an enormous clock takes up a hefty chunk of his workshop, and he's really pleased with it. Standing nearly 6 feet tall, it's a clock any woodworker would be proud to display.

"You have to drill a hole for the saw blade for each cutout you want to make," John D. says, "and I kept track of the ones I drilled in the clock. There are 1,825 cutouts, and 102 hours of actual sawing. Assembly and finishing took up another 100 hours." The clock was assembled on a big board that was carefully drawn with a series of square lines to keep everything square and straight.

"I started with five-eighths ash," he says, and planed it down to a quarter of an inch, before I ever started sawing. I'm using less than half the wood I start out with. I'd like to find a source of thinner wood."

At any rate, he chose to finish the project with an oil finish. "I've been told that if I tried to stain it, the edge-finished wood would soak up more stain than



From far left: Some of the fine detail work can be seen in the gargoyles. While not exactly a pocket watch, John D.'s clock is portable. The fine detail visible again. He built everything but the globes on the lamps.

the rest of the wood, and would get darker. So I just used oil."

John D. emphasizes that everything on his clock is handmade — by him — except for two globes on lamps. He built the lamp poles and purchased the globes.

"I'm really happy with it," he says, "and there's absolutely no question in my mind that it's the biggest, most complex project I've ever undertaken. I'm already looking for something bigger and better."

In the meantime, he keeps busy working with collapsible baskets such as the small "berry basket" he made not long ago, and bowls made of contrasting woods that are dovetailed together and glued before being turned on the lathe. He's particularly fond of the dark cherry and light maple combination.

"I do some simple projects where I just glue a store-bought pattern onto a piece of wood and follow the lines with my saw blade," he says, "and others are

a little more complicated."

While he hopes to get into another major project before long, he's not in any hurry — he's already involved in a major project of a different sort. "I retired from farming a long time ago," he says with a chuckle, "but I didn't really quit cold turkey. I've helped my son-in-law all along, and with us not being able to get started planting as early as usual, we're really busy now. But once the crop's in, it's back to the shop for me!"

New members of your cooperative

Welcome to all new SEIEC members who officially became a part of the cooperative family in March 1994!

Barbara Benz-Godfrey
Paul O. Decker
Timothy G. Grigsby
Barbara Keller
William Wyat Mitchem
Dennis Padgett
James R. Reeder
Bill Wright
Jeffrey A. Leighton
Robert Nicholson
David R. Rowland
Rene Moake
Jo Ellen Hall
Larry R. Monroe
Richard R. Ackerman

Carla Brown
Walter Doneske
Joan R. Manalang
Tara Munday
Jeffrey Sands
Carl D. Stokes
Dorothy J. Dodson
Megan L. Ledbetter
William W. Womack
Michael Brown
Karon A. Essary
Michael Brad Henshaw
Rhonda J. Lawless
George E. Newman
Johnnie L. Peyton

Mary S. Ruschak
D.R. Bristow
Randall J. Mayhew
William C. Roberson
Ronald Dobbs
Michael L. Murphy
Mark Haumschilt
Jackie Moore
Donald L. Allen
Stephen B. Camden
Dennis D. Harland
Tracy G. Mills
Roger Price
Walmer Schmidtke
Chong Hock Tan

Sally D. Hope
Lisa McPherson
Joe L. Miller
Susan Casey
David L. Flood
Harold Hood
Donna Logsdon
Gerald Oliver
Jerry D. Price
Chris Taylor
Penny Ealy
Lavonda Muncy
Kevin S. Ross
Charlotte King
Catherine J. Carroll

Earl W. Herron
Marlyne R. Stamm
Laura Bergeron
Timothy W. Clarida
Jessica R. Hatton
Betty Anderson Monroe
James E. Roe
Frank A. Sisk
Jerry A. Boney
Rodney E. Lane
Danny McRoy
Buddy McClintock

Capital credits for 1993

The most economical method of notifying members of their capital credit allocation is to furnish them with a multiplication factor, which when applied to the total electric bill for the year 1993 will determine the notified amount of patronage. Notices will be mailed to large commercial consumers who are not on self billing.

Self-billing members may determine their capital credit allocations from Southeastern by multiplying their bills paid (less tax) by a factor of .07180544; for Southern Illinois Power Co-operative use a factor of .08625891.

For those paying accounts under the Small Commercial Schedule, a factor of .07474732 for Southeastern and .08979295 for Southern Illinois Power Co-operative should be used.

If you are unable to determine your 1993 allocation, the amount credited will be furnished on request.

The bylaws of your cooperative provide that each member shall be notified of the amount of patronage capital credited to his account. Of the total allocation, approximately 36 percent is due to capital credit allocation received from the Southern Illinois Power Co-operative.

A capital credit plan is an arrangement under which: (1) a cooperative and its members expressly agree that any payment by any patron over the cost of serving him is capital furnished by the patron to the cooperative; (2) the Cooperative credits such patronage capital on its books to the patrons; and (3) such capital will be retired when, in the opinion of the board

of trustees, such retirement will not impair the cooperative's financial position.

The capital credit plan provides for service at cost for paying off the REA and CFC loans, for acquiring complete local ownership of the cooperative system, for giving all patrons full credit for all payments in excess of cost, and for the eventual repayment to the patrons of all capital furnished by them. Capital credits are not necessarily available in the form of cash, but are represented largely by investments in poles, wire, transformers and other equipment required to provide service. In general, no patronage capital can be retired until the cooperative has obtained enough capital to take care of all its needs.

Nominating Committee chosen

As provided by the bylaws of SOUTHEASTERN ILLINOIS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., a Nominating Committee was chosen April 26, 1994, consisting of the following cooperative members:

District No. 1

Tina Bauman, RR 1 Box 204, Sesser, IL 62884

District No. 2

W.D. Fisher, RR 1, Macedonia, IL 62860

District No. 3

Carl L. Smith, RR 5 Box 164, McLeansboro, IL 62859

District No. 4

Kathy Abney, 1495 Ward Road, Galatia, IL 62935

District No. 5

Charles G. Cox, RR 1 Box 88, Eldorado, IL 62930

District No. 6

Eugene Cobb, RR 4 Box 830, Marion, IL 62959

District No. 7

John W. Ward, 570 Raintree Road, Harrisburg, IL 62946

District No. 8

David W. Wiman, RR 1 Box 124A, Herod, IL 62947

District No. 9

Joseph C. Whitehead, RR 1 Box 694, Tunnel Hill, IL 62991

District No. 11

Chester Davis, P.O. Box 542, Golconda, IL 62938
R.C. Davidson, Jr., RR 3 Box 136, Golconda, IL 62938

The Committee will meet at the office of the Cooperative on Tuesday, June 7, 1994, at the hour of 10 a.m., for the purpose of nominating four (4) candidates for three-year terms as Trustees of SOUTHEASTERN ILLINOIS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. Trustees whose terms are expiring include: W.S. "Bill" Richardson, RR 1, Ewing (District 2); Roy D. Wise, 5625

Highway 145 South, Harrisburg (District 7); Jamie Scherrer, RR 2 Box 124, Equality (District 8); and Gary Hise, RR 1 Box 34C, Golconda (District 11).

/s/ James J. Scherrer

James "Jamie" Scherrer,
Secretary
Board of Trustees

Manager's Comments

(Continued from page 12a)

conditioners, can reduce cooling costs by as much as 40 percent.

When making a comparative analysis of gas verses electric heating, don't forget to calculate the electric energy used by the blower and electronic controls on the gas furnace. This cost can be significant, especially on so called high efficiency gas units with continuous running fans.

For more information about heat pump, give Ray Harbison a call at 1-800-833-2611, ext. 163.



The SOUTHEASTERN LIGHT

Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative Eldorado, Illinois



General Manager's Comments

James M. "Mick" Cummins

Washington is focused on health care and it seems certain that a dominant health care proposal will emerge and be signed into law within the next twenty-four months. "How" and "What" is enacted could have a tremendous impact on Southern Illinois, as well as the rest of rural America.

According to government estimates, Americans spent some \$939 billion last year on health care, and yet 39 million Americans remain uninsured. Moreover, 20 percent of the uninsured are rural residents, who according to governmental reports, are more prone to be chronically ill or injured on the job than their urban counterparts. In 1992 there were only 163 doctors for each 100,000 rural residents, compared to 231 doctors for each 100,000 urban residents — a disturbing disparity.

The proposed Health Security Act attempts to increase the number of general practitioners in rural areas by using incentives to attract and hopefully retain small town and rural community doctors. The importance of such a proposal is brought to light by a 1993 survey of American medical colleges which indicates less than 20 percent of enrolled medical students plan to enter family practice, and fewer than 5 percent plan to practice in rural areas.

One phrase, "managed competition" is being repeated frequently in the on-going health care debate. However, many experts feel if managed

competition is to function properly, a minimum area of 180,000 residents is required. This is a concern, not only for Southern Illinois, but for many other areas of rural America as well.

Southern Illinois is a great place to live, work and raise a family. We have a quality of life that is considered superior to urban life by seven out of 10 respondents to a recent Roper poll. Readily accessible health care is critical to sustaining that quality of life and is also an important factor in attracting jobs, industries, and retirees into our area.

Our area health care institutions have been financially stressed by State and Federal budget deficits. The end result has been arbitrary and delayed payments for services rendered. Despite this fact, local hospitals and clinics have continued to perform admirably, and several have formed alliances to increase the scope and quality of the services they offer. These alliances are critical for continued quality health care in our area. Equally important is the recognition of managed competition formed on a "regional" basis, rather than a State boundary basis. It is critical that whatever plan is enacted recognizes the uniqueness of Southern Illinois and its geographic proximity and alliances with advance care facilities located in Evansville, Indiana; Paducah, Kentucky; and St. Louis, Missouri.

See you next month, and as always, "We'll keep the lights on for you."



Photo courtesy of the Southern Illinoisian

Book spells out 'Egypt's' attractions

What weighs less than two and a half pounds, and contains a ton? If anything fits that description, it's Enjoy Southern Illinois, a book produced by three long-time area residents. The beefy book—it weighs in at two pounds, five and one-half ounces—contains a ton of useful information for those who want to find something to do in the 35 southernmost counties in the state.

The book is subtitled, "A Complete Recreational Guide," and it is that, for a fact.

The authors, Lonnie Russell, Richard Goldstein and Les Winkeler, set out to find and spell out the interesting, fun things to do in a part of the state many people don't even know exists. In their preface, they spell out the problem: "Most people don't know it exists since, for too many people, Illinois and Chicago are synonymous."

Then they set out their solution to that problem in a well-thought-out 648-page book that even the most recreationally challenged person will find enjoyable.

Winkeler, who's from up north (Carlyle), has been outdoors writer for the Southern Illinoisian, a newspaper based in Carbondale, for several years. His columns are read and enjoyed by many, and his expertise and enthusiasm are carried over into the book.

Russell is a professor at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, and is owner of Cache River Press in Vienna, which prints the book. Goldstein is a reporter for the Harrisburg Daily Register, notes that he was brought into the project after another author dropped out.

"Cache River Press had worked with Alan McPherson, who wrote Fifty Nature Walks in Southern Illinois," he says, "and it was doing well. They decided that a book about a greater variety of recreational activities would be interesting, too, and

that's when I got involved."

As plans for the book started firming up, the authors naturally set out to work on topics they were most familiar with. Winkeler, a hunting and outdoor enthusiast, wrote the chapters dealing with those topics, while Goldstein, a history and fine arts buff, tackled those chapters. He and Russell split up the chapters on restaurants and parks, and Russell did the rest.

The book is the first and only guide book devoted to the natural, historical and cultural riches of the region that makes up about the southern one-third of Illinois (It notes that the region is often called "Egypt," but that the "Little Egypt" nickname is more appropriately given to a belly dancer at the Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893).

At any rate, the book deals with how to have fun in the state's 35 southernmost counties, an area stretching from Alton to Cairo, and from the cliffs of Pere Marquette State Park to the cypress swamps along the Cache River. More than 80 maps, over 170 photos and hundreds of helpful tips will guide the would-be hunter, hiker, cyclist, canoeist or history buff to the choicest of locations for all kinds of activities.

Southern Illinois is an outdoorsman's dream, the authors point out, and detailed descriptions of every state park in the region, the best hiking spots north of Illinois Route 13 and a chapter for cyclists includes maps that can be found nowhere else are just a few of the features for anyone who wants to get outside.

Browsing through the book, you'll almost certainly find something you didn't know about the region. For example, that Robert Wadlow, the tallest man ever recorded, lived in Alton. He was eight feet, eleven inches tall.

The fact that there is a 14th century Italian credenza on display in the Cairo Public Library

is something that many don't know, and few know the history of the Old Slave House—since re-named the Crenshaw House—in the hills of Southern Illinois, where John Crenshaw, a wealthy entrepreneur, was permitted to use slaves for the manufacture of salt.

It also mentions that while many Illinois towns are named after European capitals, Vienna isn't one of them, although Vienna, Austria, is that nation's capital. Our Vienna was named after Vienna Reynolds, daughter of a local building contractor.

All these tidbits, and more, can be found in the chapter about the historic and prehistoric sites of the region. There are chapters to guide you to the professional and amateur performing arts, and others to point you toward hundreds of festivals throughout the region.

Another chapter highlights the many bed and breakfast es-



Richard Goldstein, one of the three authors of *Enjoy Southern Illinois*, at his computer.

tablishments in the region. Whether you want to wake up to a spectacular view at the confluence of the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers, or take in a good Southern Illinois barbecue, *Enjoy Southern Illinois* will help you find your way there.

If you're looking for a B&B, a hiking trail, a place to golf, a biking trail, a horseback-riding

trail, a hunting spot or whatever, the book is worth reading. If you're into scenery and activities more strenuous than channel surfing, the hefty tome is well worth a read.

Look for it at local bookstores, or write to Cache River Press, Route 3, Box 239c, Vienna, Illinois 62995.

Call us before you dig!

With spring finally here, our members are out and around, doing work the cold winter kept them from doing. And some are getting into underground power lines.

You can avoid this situation—call SEIEC before you dig, and we'll tell you where the underground wires in your yard are.

You can reach us at (618) 273-2611, or (800) 833-2611, a toll-free number. Call us before you dig: if you use the toll-free number, it won't cost you anything, and may save you some grief and inconvenience.

Report of Nominating Committee

As provided by the bylaws of Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Inc., a Nominating Committee, consisting of the following Cooperative members:

Tina Bauman (District 1)
W.D. Fisher (District 2)
Carl L. Smith (District 3)
Kathy Abney (District 4)
Charles G. Cox (District 5)
Eugene Cobb (District 6)
John W. Ward (District 7)
David W. Wiman (District 8)

Joseph C. Whitehead (District 9)
Chester Davis (District 11)
R.C. Davidson, Jr. (District 11)

met at the office of the Cooperative on June 7, 1994, at the hour of 10 a.m. for the purpose of nominating four (4) candidates for three-year terms as Trustees of Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Inc.

The undersigned presided as Secretary of the meeting.

The following candidates

were nominated:

W.S. "Bill" Richardson (District 2)
Roy D. Wise (District 7)
Jamie Scherrer (District 8)
Gary Hise (District 11)

Dated at Eldorado, Illinois, this 7th day of June, 1994.

/s/ Kathy A. Abney
Secretary of the Meeting

New members of your cooperative

Welcome to all new SEIEC members who officially became a part of the cooperative family in April 1994!

Jimmy R. Adkins
 Jeff Carson
 George Hopkins Jr.
 Ed Littlefield
 Morris W. Miles
 Shannon Rone
 Jason Hubbard
 Mary L. Cravens
 Michael J. Mayer
 Paradise AC Hunt Club
 Gene Broadway
 Terry W. Clark
 Terry W. Edwards
 Samuel Graves
 Kenneth Holup
 John J. Lenz
 Virginia McPherson
 Larry Mitchell
 Greg Walker
 Ray Moore
 Andrea Pickard
 Diane M. Sanders
 Doug Walter
 J. Shad Zimbro
 Loretta Andrews

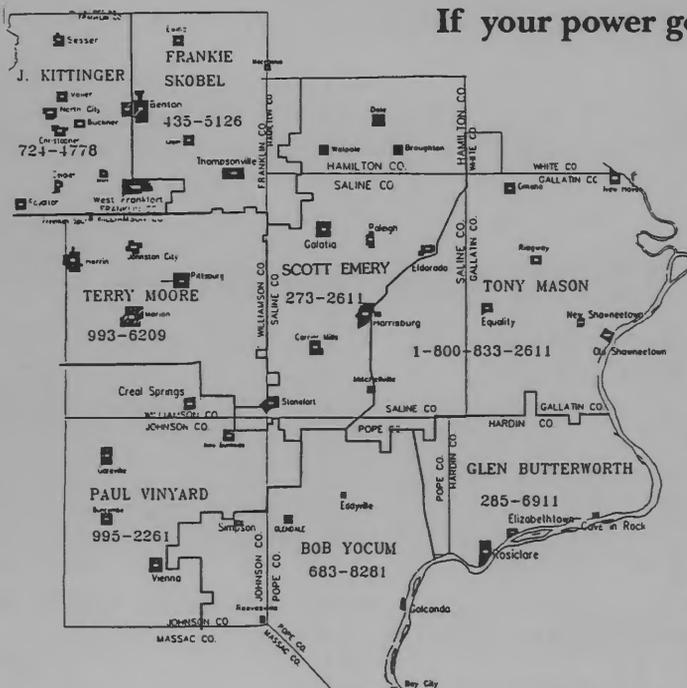
William J. Chester Jr.
 Tim Dillard
 Tammy E. Flota
 Brian Grom
 Rudy J. Beachy
 Paula J. Emery
 Donnie J. Johnson
 Mark S. McLean
 Leslie Neal
 Jennifer Samples
 James E. Appleby
 Dennis Kapp
 John W. Nipper
 Theresa M. Backley
 Cayce J. Buckner
 Christy Daymon
 Don Ellis
 Rommel L. Hall
 Chris Kane
 Lisa J. Littrell
 Donald L. Mathis
 Stephen B. Mitchell
 Crownline Boats Inc.
 Joe Nogalski
 Jacqueline Price

Christopher M. Sparks
 Scott Winchester
 Lee F. Mudlaff
 David Bright
 Chester L. Cooper
 Frank Dueker
 Terry L. Fulk
 Terry L. Hank
 Randall Blain
 Thomas A. Gauss
 Keith M. Joiner
 James E. Mellow
 Samuel R. Parrott
 Helen Walter
 Norm Coombs
 George McVey
 Mike Pampe
 Richard K. Beltz
 Ernest J. Clark
 Carl D. Doerner
 Andrew M. Florian
 Sandra E. Hall
 Matthew C. Lampley
 Robert S. Lowery
 Douglas Maynard

Williamson Co. Hwy. Dep.
 Carol Schantz Conder
 Rodney E. Nunley
 Gary Robinett
 The Church @ HBG
 Brittany R. Winstead
 Bret Robertson
 Rose Brownen
 Joanne Deming
 Reuben Flannigan
 Howard Gilliam
 Cliff Land
 Dick Mandrell
 James M. Nelson
 April N. Smith
 Carla Tapley
 Jeffrey Mac Watkins
 Dan Lemmons
 Bryan W. Painter
 Ronald O. Spurlock
 Bret Troutman
 Dewayne Mathews
 Patricia Jo Robinson
 Mike Stricklin
 Larry E. Walden Jr.

Power Outage

If your power goes off, we offer these suggestions



1. Check the fuses or circuit breakers in your service panels. If you have breakers, make sure they are in the "ON" position.

2. If you have a meter pole, check the main breaker panel just below the meter socket. If the breaker is in the "OFF" position, check all of your wiring from the meter pole to your various buildings. If the wiring appears to be okay, reset the breaker to the "ON" position.

3. If you still do not have power, check with neighbors to see if they have power.

4. To report a power failure or other emergency, please phone 1-800-833-2611 or 273-2611. These phone numbers are monitored around the clock, 365 days per year to accept your outage and emergency calls.

5. In the event that you are unable to contact the Cooperative at either of the above numbers, you may call the home of your area serviceman on weekdays (from 4:30 p.m. through 7:30 a.m.) or on weekends to report outages or emergencies. If you do not receive an answer or if the phone is busy, please call 1-800-833-2611 or 273-2611 (COLLECT) to report your outage or emergency situation.

6. Please be prepared to give the party answering your call the account name and location number as it appears on the envelope that contains your billing tickets.

1-800-833-2611



The SOUTHEASTERN LIGHT

Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative Eldorado, Illinois



General Manager's Comments

James M. "Mick" Cummins

MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS! That's just what the members of Southeastern will do when they attend the Cooperative's Annual Meeting, which will be held Tuesday, August 2nd, of this year.

Those members, planning to attend, recognize that responsibility comes with ownership. They also recognize that no business organization adheres to American values and principles more soundly than do cooperatives. At your Cooperative, members elect other members to serve as Trustees. These Trustees live in the districts they represent and pay the same electric rates as their neighbors. The end result is Trustees who have the same concerns as every other member has: Low rates and good service.

Investor-owned utilities, on the other hand, normally select their directors based on the number of shares the individual owns. Their directors, more often than not, live

out of the area or even out of state, and therefore are isolated from concerns of their customers. Simply put, investor-owned utilities (IOU's) are driven by one goal: Profit per share — all else is secondary. Their annual meetings are held in large cities or exotic locations for the benefit of major stockholders, who attend to hear plans for future profit making. Your Cooperative's Annual Meetings, on the other hand, are held locally and are open to all members, since all are equal in voting rights and privileges.

So if you can, attend this year's Annual Meeting and **MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS.**

Official Notice of 1994 Annual Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That the Annual Meeting of the members of SOUTHEASTERN ILLINOIS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., will be held at the Southeastern Illinois College, Illinois Route 13, East of Harrisburg or South of Eldorado on College Drive, on August 2, 1994; that the period of registration for said Meeting of Members will be from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m.; business meeting of said Members will convene at 7 p.m. for the purpose of taking action upon the reports of Officers, Trustees, and Committees of said Cooperative, for the election of four (4) Trustees for terms of three (3) years each, and for such other matters as may properly be considered at such meeting.

You are further notified that the number of Trustees to be elected at the 1994 Annual Meeting is four (4) and that one Member is to be elected from each of Districts 2, 7, 8, and 11.

Report of Nominating Committee

As provided by the by-laws of SOUTHEASTERN ILLINOIS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., a Nominating Committee, consisting of the following Cooperative Members:

Tina Bauman	District #1
W.D. Fisher	District #2
Carl L. Smith	District #3
Kathy Abney	District #4
Charles G. Cox	District #5
Eugène Cobb	District #6
John W. Ward	District #7
David W. Wiman	District #8
Joseph C. Whitehead	District #9
Chester Davis	District #11
R.C. Davidson, Jr.	District #11

met at the Headquarters office of the Cooperative on June 7, 1994, at the hour of 10 a.m., for the purpose of nominating candidates for Trustee of SOUTHEASTERN ILLINOIS ELECTRIC

COOPERATIVE, INC., for the terms expiring.

The undersigned presided as Secretary of the meeting.

The following candidates were nominated:

W.S. "Bill" Richardson, RR 1, Ewing (District 2); Roy D. Wise, 5625 Hgy. 145 South, Harrisburg (District 7); Jamie Scherrer, RR 2 Box 124, Equality (District 8), and Gary Hise, RR 1 Box 34C, Golconda (District 11).

DATED at Eldorado, Illinois, this 7th day of June, 1994.

/s/ Kathy Abney
Kathy Abney
Secretary of the Meeting

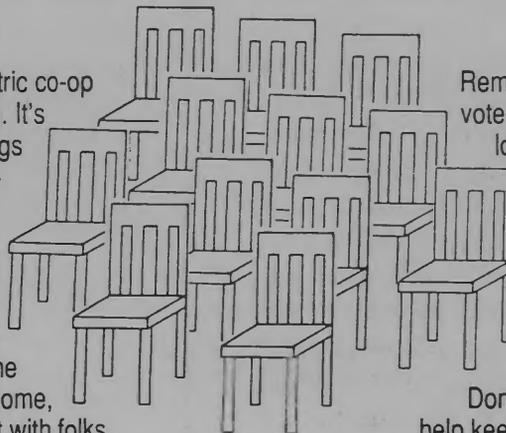
DATED at Eldorado, Illinois, this 14th day of July, 1994.

/s/ James J. Scherrer
James J. Scherrer
Secretary, Board
of Trustees

STAND UP AND BE COUNTED!

Once a year your rural electric co-op holds a very important meeting. It's YOUR meeting because it brings you up to date on co-op operations and other business.

As a consumer-owner, you're invited to air your views, discuss things with your fellow members, and vote for directors to serve on the co-op board. Families are welcome, too, and it's a good time to visit with folks you don't see often enough.



Remember -- you have a voice and vote in co-op matters. Because we're locally owned and controlled, we can better serve you. And that makes us different from other kinds of electric utilities.

Your presence counts -- your vote counts.

Don't miss your annual meeting!

Don't miss this special opportunity to help keep your co-op working for your benefit and your community!

Attend the
Southeastern Illinois
Electric Cooperative
Annual Meeting

Tuesday, August 2
Southeastern Illinois College

(Illinois Route 13 east of
Harrisburg)
(or College Drive south of
Eldorado)

Registration begins at 6 p.m.
Business meeting begins at 7 p.m.

- **Reports of officers**
- **Election of trustees**
- **Other cooperative business**

\$10 electric bill credit for
all members attending the annual
meeting

New members of your cooperative

Welcome to all new SEIEC members who officially became a part of the cooperative family in May 1994!

Jeremy Bandy
Dennis M. Beaumont
Stacey Lynn Camden
Jeff A. Crisler
Daniel T. Lynn
Jeff Myers
Billy Ray Robbins
Kyle G. Schwartz Sr.
Mathew S. Ward
Michael A. Ward
Charels E. Arnold
Samuel G. Beggs
Jason Davidson

Gerald E. Gneckow
Gene Hoock
Beulah M. Logan
Niki Millikan
Raymond Barham
Robert Biggs
Sheila Choate
Charles Fitzpatrick Jr.
James W. McHargue
Lori L. Null
Randy C. Schaubert
Doug Short
Gary Whitlock

Albert L. Beal
Goldie Atkins
Katherine M. Brennan
James H. Davis Jr.
Edward E. Hale
Adam Jones
Michael W. Mayhew
Larry Owens
Lena M. Bean
Alice Brassell
Lyle Cline
Chris W. Frailey
Gertie Myers

Mike Powell
Wayne M. Schillinger
Brad Unthank
Terry Winn
Alfred Seals
Ayrshire Land Co.
Anthony L. Craig
Samuel A. Dillard
Michael Shane Hobbs
Gary W. Kelton
Doug Miller
Rita Diane Warren

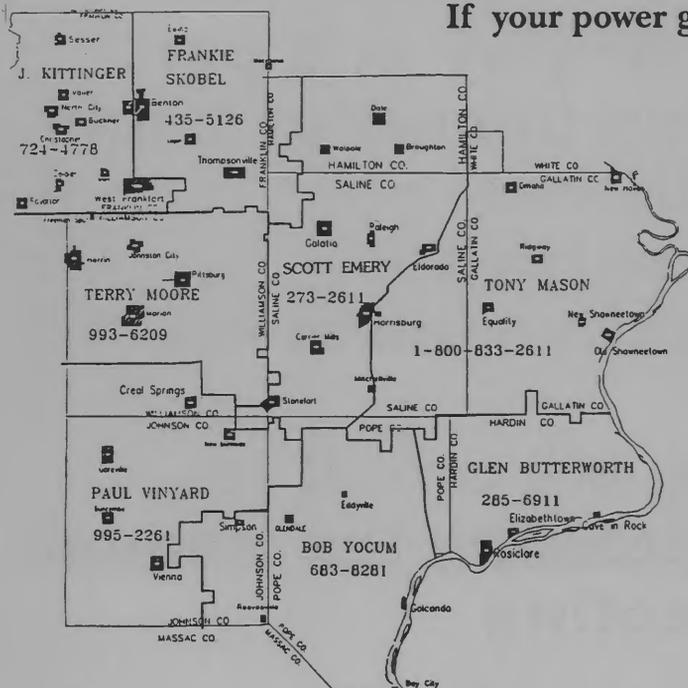
Save \$10

on your next electric bill!

Members attending the annual meeting August 2 will receive a \$10 credit on their next electricity bill. Be sure to attend and take part in your annual meeting.

Power Outage

If your power goes off, we offer these suggestions



1. Check the fuses or circuit breakers in your service panels. If you have breakers, make sure they are in the "ON" position.

2. If you have a meter pole, check the main breaker panel just below the meter socket. If the breaker is in the "OFF" position, check all of your wiring from the meter pole to your various buildings. If the wiring appears to be okay, reset the breaker to the "ON" position.

3. If you still do not have power, check with neighbors to see if they have power.

4. To report a power failure or other emergency, please phone 1-800-833-2611 or 273-2611. These phone numbers are monitored around the clock, 365 days per year to accept your outage and emergency calls.

5. In the event that you are unable to contact the Cooperative at either of the above numbers, you may call the home of your area serviceman on weekdays (from 4:30 p.m. through 7:30 a.m.) or on weekends to report outages or emergencies. If you do not receive an answer or if the phone is busy, please call 1-800-833-2611 or 273-2611 (COLLECT) to report your outage or emergency situation.

6. Please be prepared to give the party answering your call the account name and location number as it appears on the envelope that contains your billing tickets.

1-800-833-2611



The SOUTHEASTERN LIGHT

Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative Eldorado, Illinois

General Manager's Comments

James M. "Mick" Cummins



The following article is reprinted from the "Marketing Exchange," a newsletter published by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

It's fun to drive. It makes heads turn. But what exactly prompted Arizona Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. (AEP CO) to convert one of its trucks into an electric vehicle (EV)?

Call it the whim of the future. California law dictates that 2 percent of the new vehicles sold there in 1998 will have to have zero emissions — and only vehicles fueled by electricity meet that standard.

So while manufacturers worldwide are caught up in a frenzy to produce EVs that the public will buy, power producers like AEP CO are in the forefront, getting a new message across: Electricity is an economic, earth-friendly energy.

There's a name for this theory. It's called EcoWatts, a phrase coined by Mark P. Mills, a longtime energy consultant, who contends some technologies can perform work better with electricity than with other fuels such as oil and gas.

Electrification, according to Mills, has the net effect of reducing carbon dioxide emissions because electricity is more efficient than other energy sources at the point of use.

He points out that carbon dioxide emissions in the United States have risen only 7 percent since 1973, while the gross national product (GNP) has increased 50 percent. He translates that into a reduction from four pounds of carbon dioxide per dollar of GNP to 2.34 pounds of carbon dioxide per dollar.

What does it all mean? Basically, "switching from fossil fuels to electricity — using more kilowatts — saves energy and cuts pollution, even when the fuels used to make electricity are considered."

Mills frequently cites the following activities as examples of EcoWatts in action. Each eliminates two pounds of carbon dioxide emissions from the atmosphere.

- Driving nine miles in electric vehicle.
- Using an electric lawnmower — rather than a gasoline-powered one — for two hours.
- Heating a home with a heat pump — instead of gas furnace — for two hours.
- Faxing, rather than mailing, a 20-page document coast to coast.

So when you think about the environment — and energy — consider EVs, all-electric for cleaner air and a cleaner ride!

Ski and Boat Show touts Rend Lake

For all people in much of the Midwest and the rest of the U.S. know, Illinois might just as well end at the city limits of Chicago. And a foreign visitor recently remarked that before coming here she'd thought of the state as "Chicago plus a great big cornfield."

But there are a lot of people in Southern Illinois who are trying to change that impression and to make it known that there are places in the state that aren't nearly as flat and featureless as a pool table. Word is ever so slowly getting out that Southern Illinois has contours and that there are lakes to fish and boat and swim in, and some rugged country to hike in. For those who aren't so excited about ruggedness, there are gentler hiking trails. And there's lodging, too.

The Rend Lake Ski and Boat Show, held June 4-5 at Rend Lake Resort, was part of the effort to get tourists into the area so they could see for themselves what Southern Illinois has to offer, notes Kevin Davis, manager of the Rend Lake Conservancy District, one of the sponsors of the event (The District is also home to one of the finest golf courses in Southern Illinois, incidentally).

"This was the third weekend in a row where we've had activities planned," Davis says, "and we're working to put together several activities to make the area even more interesting throughout the summer months."

The first activity was an arts and crafts festival, and the second, held over the Memorial Day weekend, was a "blessing of the fleet," to kick off the boating season.

Melissa Harmon, sales director for Rend Lake Resort and one of the many planners of some of the many events, remarks that there was a good crowd at the ski and boat show, but that she wasn't really satisfied. "You always hope for more," she says with a chuckle.

She adds that this year's program included the ski show, which had been expanded somewhat over previous offerings. It was probably

the main attraction, although all the other events did well, too. The ski show, which was put on three different times during the weekend, is a fairly standard routine that lasts almost exactly an hour, and includes some serious precision skiing mixed in with a few humorous skits. The Alton Ski Club puts on the show.

There were a couple of parachutists who dropped in from 6,000 feet, and who stayed to visit with the crowd. They were Steve Bebeau and Don Devine, members of the Southern Illinois University-Carbondale skydiving team who were "freelancing" for the occasion.

The Rend Lake Search and Rescue Team, a volunteer group from Franklin, Jefferson, Williamson and Perry counties, had an exhibit at the show, and put on one show a day to demonstrate the equipment and techniques used to find a drowned swimmer.

In addition to all this, there was musical entertainment on Saturday by Cimarron, while the Gary Jones band played Sunday. Naturally, there were boats on display, with five area dealers letting interested persons "slam the doors and kick the tires," so to speak, on the vehicles at the boat dock. There were all kinds of boats on display, from little personal watercraft flitting around

like waterbugs to big pontoon boats cruising sedately along.

Ashore, there was a carnival atmosphere, and you could buy just about any food or drink item you'd find at a county fair. Those who paid attention might have noticed that the announcer for the event was Kenny Gray, retired Congressman from the area. Other legislators who put in an appearance were Sen. Jim Rea (D-59) and Rep. Larry D. Woolard (D-117).

Since the event was billed as a family affair, there were things for children, too. Woodsy Owl strolled the grounds talking to kids and having his picture taken with them, and a couple of clowns wandered around making animal balloons on demand for the younger set. Kids who wanted to could take part in an audience-participation water safety demonstration, and there was also a watermelon-eating contest. Baby races helped occupy those youngsters from 11 months to five years old.

All in all, the third annual Rend Lake Ski and Boat Show was a good one, and you can bet that the entire summer will be filled with weekend activities intended to make people aware that while the Rend Lake area isn't Chicago, it's still an awfully nice place to visit in its own right!



This skier makes it almost look easy, as she skims across the lake.



Clockwise from top: These skiers, amateurs and members of the Alton Ski Club, put on a first-class one-hour show for the crowd, and did it three times during the ski and boat show. Part of the reason for the show was to enable boat dealers to demonstrate their wares, and many did. Some of the lodging at Rend Lake is visible here, as well as some boats that were on display. There was a carnival atmosphere during the event, with all kinds of foods for sale and many different activities.

New members of your cooperative

Welcome to all new SEIEC members who officially became a part of the cooperative family in June 1994!

Randall Banks Jr.
James D. Collins
John E. Gholson
Mark A. Hartman
Christopher Merrell
Thomas A. Pettit III
Jeremy Reed
Joseph D. Spano
John W. Strobel
Richard W. Conner
Carla Y. Holbrook
Tony Shane Kendall
Keith Moore
Joseph C. Vinyard
Richard L. Corn
Christina M. Dishman
Jonathan Gericke
Luann Irvin
Kathy A. Patton
Ron H. Shelton
David B. Anderson
C.R. Farrington
Rodney Laney
Gerald McDaniel
Penny N. Rider

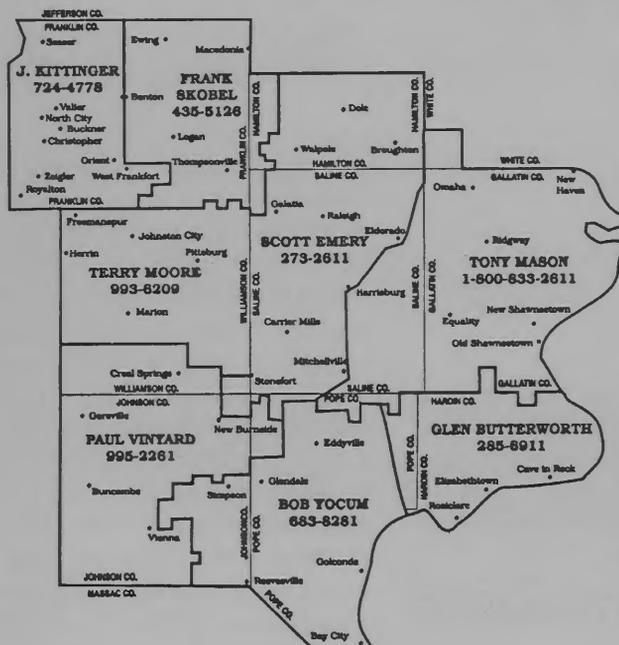
Robert M. Sasser
Gary D. Turner
Terry L. Vanmeter
Eric Boehnlein
Stacey Borta
James Dyer
Allen M. Gireaux
Lawrence S. Jamrozek
John Mullins
Gary T. Pflug Sr.
Chris Rutledge
Ronald H. Stahl
Virginia Jane Thomas
Robert L. Havens
Charles Johnson
Robin L. Koehl
Donald R. Norton
Michael O. Wilkerson
Darlene Cox
Michael E. Edwards
Tonya Gliemann
David Leavell
Patty Porter
James T. Smoot

David Michael Atwood
Kirk Jason Harris
Rebecca Lindsey
Keith McDannel
Mark Robanske
Tammy Faye Smith
James Turner
Todd J. Vinyard
Eugene Mason
Bernard L. Bucher
Orvil E. Garriss
Garrison R. Gross
Brent Jennings
Mary A. Myers
Waldo L. Popenhagen
Michelle Simmons
Greta H. Stephens
Kevin A. Wampler
Christopher Hayes
Rodney E. Johnson
Jeffry J. Luzier
Julia S. Santos
Rick A. Vaughn
Wendy Daugherty

Jeni Fanning
Steven H. Huie
Richard E. Mize
Duane D. Rust
Marlene Abbott
Dorothy Julia Aud
Robert E. Jennings
Donald McCord
John S. Parnell
Lisa Russell
Dennis Stratmeyer
Phillip C. Valestin
Robert E. Ashby
John E. Adamore
David R. Grahn
James Kuenstler
Charles Perkins Sr.
Bruce Youst
Jon Haase
Gregory A. Lawrence
Herbert Scheeter
John L. Houser
Edward Munie
Herbert E. Underwood

Power Outage

If your power goes off, we offer these suggestions



1. Check the fuses or circuit breakers in your service panels. If you have breakers, make sure they are in the "ON" position.

2. If you have a meter pole, check the main breaker panel just below the meter socket. If the breaker is in the "OFF" position, check all of your wiring from the meter pole to your various buildings. If the wiring appears to be okay, reset the breaker to the "ON" position.

3. If you still do not have power, check with neighbors to see if they have power.

4. To report a power failure or other emergency, please phone 1-800-833-2611 or 273-2611. These phone numbers are monitored around the clock, 365 days per year to accept your outage and emergency calls.

5. In the event that you are unable to contact the Cooperative at either of the above numbers, you may call the home of your area serviceman on weekdays (from 4:30 p.m. through 7:30 a.m.) or on weekends to report outages or emergencies. If you do not receive an answer or if the phone is busy, please call 1-800-833-2611 or 273-2611 (COLLECT) to report your outage or emergency situation.

6. Please be prepared to give the party answering your call the account name and location number as it appears on the envelope that contains your billing tickets.

1-800-833-2611



The SOUTHEASTERN LIGHT

Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative Eldorado, Illinois

General Manager's Comments

James M. "Mick" Cummins



A recent Gallup Poll jointly sponsored by the National Cooperative Business Association, the Credit Union National Association, CUNA Mutual Insurance and the National Cooperative Bank, gave cooperatives a 28 percent point advantage over their non-cooperative counterparts in the area of customer concern. This report is welcome news to the 47,000 American cooperatives that have been contributing to the U.S. economy by generating over \$100 billion of economic activity annually. The report is also particularly appropriate, since 1994 is the 150th anniversary of the modern cooperative movement. Although the first American cooperative, the Philadelphia Contributorship for the Insurance of Houses Lost by Fire, is over 242 years old and still operating; modern cooperatives based on six key principles were conceived in 1844 in Rochdale, England, by a group of 28 craftsmen who entered into an agreement to accomplish collectively, what individually they could not. Summarized, those key principles are: (1) An Open Membership; (2) Democratic Control; (3) Limited Return on Investment; (4) Return of Margins to Member Owners; (5) Member Owner Support through Education; (6) Mutual Support to Other Cooperative Organizations.

Today, American cooperatives

provide a diverse range of goods and services, including but not limited to, credit and financial services, health care, housing, insurance, electricity, telephone, water, sewer, television, manufacturing and sales.

American cooperatives range in size from very small to very large, with the nation's top 100, each generating annual revenues exceeding \$200 million. Land O'Lakes, Ocean Spray, SunKist, Ace Hardware and Associated Press are all cooperative organizations.

Your cooperative is one of approximately 1,000 rural electric systems that collectively operate more than half of all the electric distribution lines within the United States and provide electric service for 25 million individuals.

Southeastern is a modern cooperative founded on the six key principles mentioned earlier. Those 869 members who had the opportunity to participate in the Cooperative's Annual Meeting on August 2, elected four local individuals as Trustees and received the good news that the Cooperative will not have a rate increase in 1994. In addition, they learned that \$487,000 is to be returned to members who received service from the cooperative in 1963 and 1964. For those members unable to attend this year, the Annual Meeting welcome mats will be out again on the first Tuesday of August 1995. Until then, "We'll keep the lights on for you."



The four area men who were reelected to the Board of Trustees of Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Eldorado, are pictured being congratulated by James M. "Mick" Cummins, manager. From left are Cummins, Gary W. Hise of Golconda, Roy D. Wise of Harrisburg, William S. Richardson of Ewing and Jamie Scherrer of Equality. The election was held at Southeastern's 56th annual meeting Tuesday, August 2, at Southeastern Illinois College, Eldorado.

Rates stable, capital credits announced

Members of Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative received welcome news at the organization's 56th annual meeting Tuesday, August 2, at Southeastern Illinois College, Eldorado. They learned that the cooperative will not have a rate increase in 1994, and that some \$487,000 will be returned to those members who received service from the co-op in 1963 and 1964.

Four area men were reelected to the Board of Trustees of the cooperative during the meeting. They were W. S. "Bill" Richardson of Ewing, Roy D. Wise of Harrisburg, Jamie Scherrer of Equality and Gary Hise of Golconda.

Speaking to some 875 members and guests, W. B. Pulliam, president, noted that Southeastern is part of a busi-

ness philosophy going back some 150 years, and that had been founded on the basis of service to members rather than stockholders' profits.

"Cooperatives are 'time tested and member approved'," he said, "and cooperative principles have been with us since they were set out in 1844 in Rochedale, England. In the mid-1930s, electric co-ops were set up so farmers and other rural residents could bring electricity to the countryside that nobody else wanted to serve.

"Now," he said, "there are those who want to end the rural electric program, on the assumption that everyone who wants electricity has it. This is like saying that highways have been built, so we don't need a highway department anymore."

James M. "Mick" Cummins, manager, noted that while cooperative principles were codified some 150 years ago, they actually date farther back than that, and that Benjamin Franklin helped form an insurance company—based on the same principles—some 240 years ago. "An important point is that your co-op is governed by a Board of Trustees," he said, "which is somewhat like a board of directors of an investor-owned utility.

"But despite the surface similarities, there are major differences," he went on. "Your trustees are member/owners of Southeastern, just as you are. Instead of living out of state and hoping for a good return on their investment, they live in the areas they represent and pay the same rates you do. So,



There was a good crowd, with nearly 900 members registered.

they want low rates and good service just as you do.

"It was the power companies' concern for profit that led to the formation of Southeastern. A group of farmers met to



Gilbert Taylor of Vienna won a microwave oven: SEIEC's Greg Cruse made the presentation.

look into the possibility of electrifying Southern Illinois. Harrisburg, the town they met in, had electricity. So did Eldorado, Benton and Marion. Rural areas didn't, even though the federal government had offered low-interest loans to the power companies to electrify the countryside. With their eyes fixed firmly on the bottom line, they couldn't see past the city limits.

"Those individuals did,

through the formation of Southeastern, what the power companies could have done, but chose not to."

Cummins noted that while 1993 had been a good enough year to permit the return of capital credits to the co-op's members, it had been a year of some challenge, too.

"The year saw a loss of sales to the coal industry," he said, "and we sold some 16.8 million kilowatt-hours less to the coal industry than we'd sold in 1992. Your co-op was also challenged in 1993 by a storm which devastated parts of Pope and Hardin Counties on June 4, leaving some 5,000 members without service and costing us over \$300,000. We applied for and received a grant from the Federal Energy Management Administration, or FEMA, which offset over 60 percent of the storm's cost. Despite the challenges, 1993 was a successful year, and you have every right to be proud of your cooperative," he concluded.

Scherrer, secretary-treasurer, reported that the co-op's operating revenues for 1993 had amounted to \$35,930,079, up just over \$1.3-million from last year's \$34,621,753. Operating expenses, he added, had increased from \$32,948,088 in

1992 to \$34,268,183 in 1993, also an increase of \$1.3-million. He reported that 66.9 percent of the co-op's revenues went for purchased power, up slightly from 1992's 66.5 percent. Southeastern paid out \$500,801 in taxes in 1993, he added.

After the meeting the board met in reorganizational session and elected Bill Cadle of Marion, president. David Ramsey of Omaha was elected



John M. Jackson of Ridgway takes possession of the electric grill he won. Again, Cruse made the presentation.

vice president. Scherrer was elected secretary and treasurer, James Smith became assistant secretary, and Cummins was reelected executive vice president.

New members of your cooperative

Welcome to all new SEIEC members who officially became a part of the cooperative family in April 1994!

Dale Acosta
Eric Blackman
Brian A. Cunningham
Darren Fletcher
Daniel E. Harmon
Roy L. Horn
Dana S. Lawrence
Thomas R. Mick
Douglas M. Prusazyk
Crystal Simmons
Robert J. Taylor
Gary L. Wollgang
Steve A. Wade
James R. Beaver
Arthur Goolsby Jr.
Jack Legere
John Mark Simpson
Kevin Westerberg
Edward Clanahan
William C. Gray
James Michael Adkins
David Baburnich
Kevin Bloodworth
Lonora Bratten
Robert Cain
Kenneth D. Ellis Jr.
Lisa L. Followell
Kathryn P. Haage
Everett R. Henson
Dale Bartley
Roger Bunselmeyer
Scott A. Dillman
Darin Galloway
Robert J. Hathaway
Helen Johnson
Chuck Leonard
Dennis J. Myers
Steve R. Rose
J. Douglas Stott

Mike Todd
Walter Zilm
Carl Sanders
Paul Bowles Jr.
Robert L. Hilliard
Alan D. Rahn
Shane Vinson
Louis K. Wilson Jr.
Paul Dunham
Brian Johnson
Cheryl All-Hassen
Christopher M. Barger
Michelle Bloodworth
Steve Buntin
Deneanna Caldwell
Cecil Todd Emery
Hubert E. Futch
Mendi Hafford
Bob Holman III
H.T. Barton Jr.
Carolyn A. Carmickle
Anthony W. Edwards
William J. Gray
William J. Heitz
Heath Koehl
Living Lt Val of Peace
Mary Poe
S.E. Self
Jeffrey M. Sullivan
Christopher J. Travis
John W. Zuck
R. Gene Stover
Dawn M. Bragg
Clyde Kennon
Shannon E. Rice
Patricia J. Waggoner
Kenneth Young
David Fleiger
Kathryn Graves Kraft

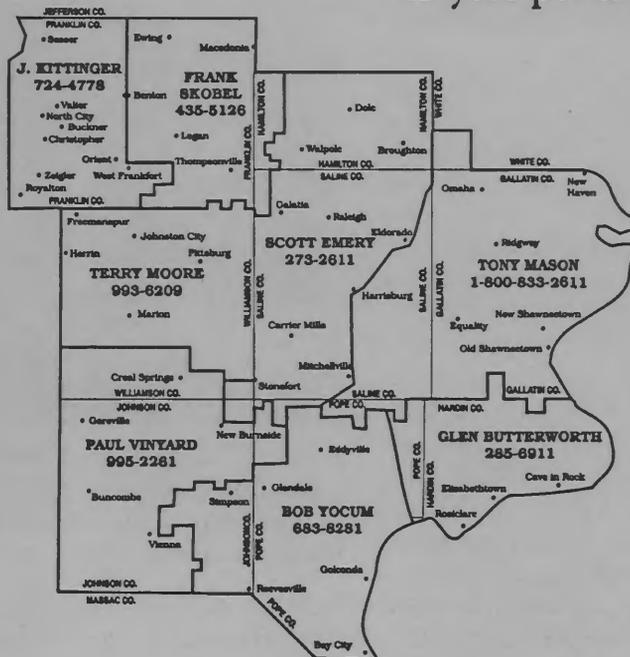
Richard Archambeau
Jeffrey G. Baumgart
Scott B. Bollman
Jeffery L. Byers
Richard Lee Elder
Troy L. Farmer
Frank E. Grant Sr.
Sheila Haggard
Mike Hopkins
Jim Howard
Dale Kelso
Kelvin Kunath
Gary Lind
George L. Most
Paul V. Otlacan
Noel Rocky Restivo
Trelvy D. Robinson
Nicholas R. Romano
Donna Sawyer
Ronald J. Schulte
Rachette C. Simmons
Randall Patrick Smith
Terry C. Stigal Jr.
Maurice L. Swinford
Darrell Treat
Kane Valenciano
Kelli Shoemak Wathen
American General Fina
Karen Bosecker
Jeff Dennison
Eric J. Henson
Dennis R. Jolly
Joseph N. Nelson
Bill Perrin
Gene Samples
Don Thompson
Dan White
Julie A. Wilson
Ana Liga Hudgens

Du Hyung D. Kim
M. Douglas Leedle
Frances C. McElhiney
Timothy A. Noe
Norman Pape
Harold D. Rich
F. Leon Rodgers
David B. Salus
Danny L. Schneider
Terri Schultz
Gordon L. Smith
Clifford Stedman
Steve Stone
Michael R. Tarlton
Jeff Treat
William F. Walen
Henry Winslow
Rebecca Barger
John Carey
James M. Hall
Jason B. Irvin
Robert M. Love
David J. O'Mella
Ronald W. Pickering
Loren Sichling
Jessie A. Thompson
Reba Williams
Leslie S. Witmer
Susan Jennings
Patrick A. Koester
Renne' Levek
Betty Mik
John J. O'Keefe
Mark Preston
Mark E. Rightnowar
Dennis R. Rogers
Robert M. Sanders
George Schoon
Sellers Country Cab

Mark E. Smith
Anthony Stepter
Mitchell E. Summers
Melissa Tomshack
James A. Turner
Randy W. Warren
Kenneth R. Allen
Donald Booth
Judy L. Chaplin
Travis W. Henshaw
James E. Johnson
Thomas G. Mueller
Outland Inc.
Clyde W. Riepe
Frank R. Thomas
Rose Wagner
Barry W. Wilson
Bonnie Witt
Robert D. Clifton
Shauna D. Davenport
Carol Easley
Dolly's Too
Tom W. Hall
Harold W. Warfield
Randy A. Kirkpatrick
Stephanie R. Council
Steven M. Davis
David Elchhorn
First Cellular
Hardin Ch of Christ
Mark Frye
Eugene L. Cox
Mark Dilley
Sheila Doty
Willard Greenwell
Maru Petroleum
Jesse Williams

Power Outage

If your power goes off, we offer these suggestions



1. Check the fuses or circuit breakers in your service panels. If you have breakers, make sure they are in the "ON" position.

2. If you have a meter pole, check the main breaker panel just below the meter socket. If the breaker is in the "OFF" position, check all of your wiring from the meter pole to your various buildings. If the wiring appears to be okay, reset the breaker to the "ON" position.

3. If you still do not have power, check with neighbors to see if they have power.

4. To report a power failure or other emergency, please phone 1-800-833-2611 or 273-2611. These phone numbers are monitored around the clock, 365 days per year to accept your outage and emergency calls.

5. In the event that you are unable to contact the Cooperative at either of the above numbers, you may call the home of your area serviceman on weekdays (from 4:30 p.m. through 7:30 a.m.) or on weekends to report outages or emergencies. If you do not receive an answer or if the phone is busy, please call 1-800-833-2611 or 273-2611 (COLLECT) to report your outage or emergency situation.

6. Please be prepared to give the party answering your call the account name and location number as it appears on the envelope that contains your billing tickets.

1-800-833-2611



The SOUTHEASTERN LIGHT

Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative Eldorado, Illinois

General Manager's Comments

James M. "Mick" Cummins



Your Cooperative has once again elected to participate in the State Funded Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). This program is designed to aid low income, elderly, and handicapped households to pay for winter heating costs. In addition to the above mentioned categories, the program in some instances, may help members whose power has been disconnected due to inability to pay.

The program which becomes effective this fall, offers utility bill assistance to members who meet specific income, age or disability guidelines as follows:

Number of Persons Living in Household	Gross Income for 30 Days Prior to Application Date
1	\$ 767
2	1,025
3	1,283
4	1,541
5	1,799
6	2,057
7	2,315
8	2,573

To apply for the Program, you must provide proof of all income for the past 30 days, have social security numbers for all household members, and have current utility bills or rent receipts if utilities are included in your

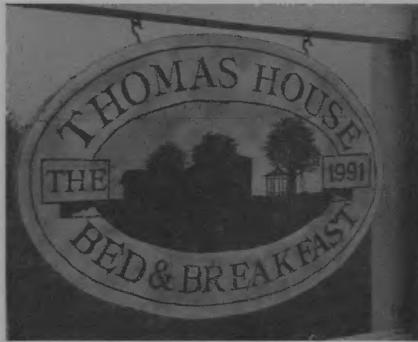
rental cost. If you are currently receiving Aid to Family of Dependent Children, you will be required to provide your medical eligibility card in addition to the above mentioned information.

Members who feel they may be eligible for this Program should contact their area agency.

For Saline, Hamilton and Gallatin counties, the agency is:
Wabash Area Development, Inc.
100 North Latham Street
Enfield, IL 62835
Phone: 618/963-2387

For Franklin, Williamson and Jefferson counties, the agency is:
Volunteer Services, Inc.
410 West Main Street
West Frankfort, IL 62896
Phone: 618/937-3581

For Pope, Hardin, Johnson and Massac counties, the agency is:
Shawnee Development Council, Inc.
School Street
Karnak, IL 62956
Phone: 618 634-2281
or 634-2282



At top: this sign welcomes people to The Thomas House, a bed & breakfast establishment near Junction City. At left, Jane Thomas stands at the entryway to her modern home.



Junction City B&B

Illinois has many bed and breakfast (B&B) establishments that are steeped in history and that have been slept in by famous people. The Thomas House isn't one of them.

Located on Rte. 13 about one-half mile north of the junction of Routes 1 and 13 in Gallatin County, The B&B is some 25 years old, and is modern and tastefully done. Jane Thomas, owner and operator, says, "There are a lot of historic sites near here, but what I offer is a house with three attractive guest rooms, each decorated in a different decor and mood."

She adds that the rest of the home is available for guest use, and that includes "the best view of the Shawnee Hills in the county." There's a screened-in porch and a gazebo/sun deck for summer enjoyment, and a cozy fireplace keeps things warm in winter. A rumpus room is in the basement, and there is a full-size pool table there.

"I'm not like many B&B's," Jane says, "because I welcome children here. I have a nice, roomy home, in an area where

there's a real shortage of quality lodging. I'm close to Ridgway, which bills itself as "The Popcorn Capital of the World," and there are several popcorn company representatives who stay here when they're in the area. I have deer hunters during the fall, too."

She notes that Ridgway's Popcorn Day gave her establishment a big boost earlier this year. "I had people all over the place," she chuckles, "and served a lot of breakfasts. It was hectic, but I enjoyed every minute of it. I've had people here from Capetown, South Africa, Germany, Australia and all over the U.S."

Having a B&B seemed to be a natural for her, she says, because she stayed in many over the years. "I've been to B&Bs in England and Japan," she adds, "and I enjoy having people around. I love to cook, too, and I encourage people who come here to try my homemade strawberry preserves."

While some B&Bs offer cold cereal and perhaps a sliver of melon for breakfast, the Thomas House offers a full breakfast, and Jane serves it when the guests

decide they want it. "If someone wants breakfast at 6:30," she says, "that's when I serve it. If my deer hunters want to eat at 3:30, I'll serve breakfast then."

Even more than hotels and motels, she says, a B&B is there to provide services to those who stay. "I've ironed shirts," she says, "and I don't know how many buttons I've sewn on. It's all part of the service I try to provide."

During the Popcorn Day festivities at Ridgway, she says, the popular Ohio group "The Sh-Booms" entertained, and were immensely popular. "They did a patriotic medley that was just beautiful. They got a standing ovation. They stayed here, and have asked if they can stay here again next year."

While her place is somewhat isolated, she prefers to think of it as peaceful and off the beaten path.

If you want to contact her, she's at R.R. 1, Junction, IL, 62954. Her phone numbers are: (800) 866-6716, or (618) 272-7046.

Farm electrical safety checklist

Service pole and service entrance

YES NO

- Do farm family members and all hired farmhands know where and how to disconnect power in the case of an electrical emergency?
- Are disconnects, especially main breakers, regularly turned off and turned back on to ensure free action and good contact? (Manufacturers of circuit breakers claim that they should be opened and reclosed once per month.)
- In case of fire, can the electricity be shut off to that particular building on fire without shutting off electricity to the water pump?

Animal housing

YES NO

- Do animals enter a building or drink at the stock tanks without hesitation?
- Is the water piping (metallic) and service entrances of buildings properly grounded? (NOTE: Check for corrosion of grounding system by animal waste.)
- Is the farmer using an industry-made electric fencer which bears the UL label?
- Are heat lamps in farrowing houses hanging by the cord only? In case of drop, are there guards on the fixture?
- Are the lights enclosed in globes and guards (where required)?
- Is the wiring suitable for wet conditions (because of the humidity created by the animals' respiration)?
- Does all wiring appear to be in good condition and free from damage by rodents?

Grain-handling equipment

YES NO

- Are overhead lines out of the way of augers and winged-type farm equipment?
- Do all motors have correctly sized overcurrent protection?
- If magnetic starters are used, are heater coils of the proper size?

Machine shed

YES NO

- Is the grounding bayonet on drop cords, power tools, etc., intact?

- Is the service entrance properly grounded?
- Are all receptacles in use properly grounded?
- Are drop cords of adequate size for the appliance or machine it is serving?
- Are drop cords put away after use so machinery can't run over them?
- Are power tools such as circular saws, table saws, drills, jig saws, etc., left unplugged when not in use so that a child couldn't accidentally turn them on?
- Is it adequately lighted?
- Are drop cords in good condition with no sign of insulation damage?

General

YES NO

- Do children know whom to call in case of an electrical emergency?
- Do family members know first aid for electrical shock and/or burns?
- Are GFI's installed where required?
- Do appliances function satisfactorily without giving a tingle to user when turned on?
- If lightning protection is installed, are all wires leading to ground?
- Are all electrical fittings on the gas pump of explosion-proof type?
- Before trees are planted, has proper siting been provided to avoid nearby overhead and underground power lines?
- Are trees free and clear of overhead electrical lines?
- Before new buildings are constructed, have the buildings been cleared of nearby overhead and underground power lines?
- Can tractors equipped with end loaders be raised to the most upper position and clear all overhead electrical lines?
- Items checked NO indicate a potential electrical safety hazard. Proper action should be taken immediately to ensure safety.

New members of your cooperative

Welcome to all new SEIEC members who officially became a part of the cooperative family in August 1994!

Nancy Shaffer
 Jason H. Beavers
 Joseph F. Bradford
 Richard Coontz
 Dennis Duchaine
 Curtis Miller
 Edward Owen Sr.
 Rebecca Rasmussen
 Allison Spence
 Roger Walters
 Charles L. Winger
 Teri Jones
 Michael Don Price
 Scott A. Curry
 Kimberly S. Dobyns
 Roger Anthis
 Dennis K. Jurcy Jr.
 Wendell W. Stritzel
 April Bowman Joslin
 Tom Mings
 Floyd Ladd
 Tim Gulley
 John Hamilton
 Michael Johnson
 Susie Glover
 Johnny Lee Fox
 Tim Green
 Crystal L. Jacoby
 Dennis Ralls

Julie Allen
 Harold Bishop
 Steven R. Caldwell
 James M. Cummins
 Bonnie Maples
 Steve Nuernberger MD
 Thomas E. Polisky
 Rose Garden
 Ken Swopes
 Keith D. Williams
 Billy Winters
 Tim A. Davis
 Jim Covey Jr.
 Donald Jennings
 Amiel Franklin Goins
 Polly Basta
 Charles Locke
 Jerry Lee Webb Jr.
 Timothy S. Brown
 Larry G. Jones
 Raymond Breen
 Kenneth C. Hall
 Cecilia Harasym
 Gene E. Kessinger
 Al Johnson
 Daniel E. Garcia
 Britney L. Heavener
 David A. Kotter
 James E. Ramsey

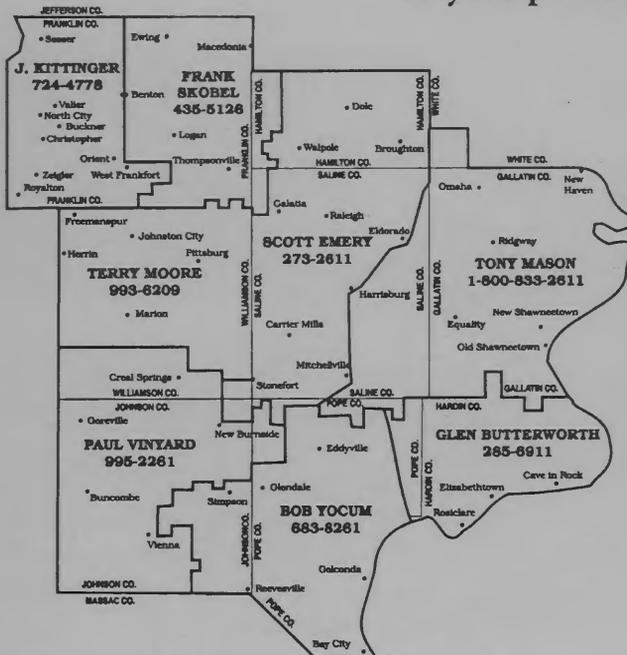
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 Jeff R. Odle
 Beulah Price
 Carla Sandefur
 Keith Travelstead
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 Kevin L. Biddle
 Jeff Meyer
 Lora M. Rogers
 Robert M. Rentfro
 Michelle Jackson
 Ferrin D. Smith
 Joe W. Whitt
 Lisa M. Melvin
 Randall W. Smith
 Wendy Fitzpatrick
 Billy Hamsley
 Robert Cory Harner
 Terry A. Loring
 Dennis R. Dowdy
 Douglas M. Gladwell
 Michael L. Hutchcraft
 Michael B. Meadows
 Raymond Shaw

Jim South
 Frederick Volini
 Michael G. Baxter
 Brian S. Bohne
 James Colonna
 Kennett Foley
 Dwight L. Hill
 Brad J. Kerrigan
 Marilyn McRoberts
 Lewis Page
 Harvey Allen Phillips
 Amy J. Rinehart
 Charles M. Shelton
 Brenda D. Sobel
 Arthur L. Watson
 John K. Mone
 Richard J. Palmer
 Bradley E. Swisher
 Brent Stroud
 Brandon White
 Mark A. Bergheger
 Alan Carlton
 Doug R. Copher
 Earnest E. French
 Joe Michael Jackson
 Bonnie Lane
 Bob Milligan
 John F. Patton Jr.
 Donnie D. Pickles

Mike Scherer
 Marty Ray Smith
 James R. Stewart
 William Griffin
 Robert J. Colborn Jr.
 Calvin J. Hicks
 Kimberly Sue Wagner
 Steve Trapper
 Dwain Arview
 Ronald J. Bever
 Donald L. Cochran
 Patrick Day
 Jerry Hainline
 Kathy Kerley
 Mike T. McLaren
 Jon Musgrave
 Wanda L. Perkins
 Harold H. Rabelow
 Larry Shafer
 Sandy M. Sneed
 Lorna E. Sutton
 Thomas Henning
 Beck Bus
 Transportatn
 Angel Lowrey

Power Outage

If your power goes off, we offer these suggestions



1. Check the fuses or circuit breakers in your service panels. If you have breakers, make sure they are in the "ON" position.

2. If you have a meter pole, check the main breaker panel just below the meter socket. If the breaker is in the "OFF" position, check all of your wiring from the meter pole to your various buildings. If the wiring appears to be okay, reset the breaker to the "ON" position.

3. If you still do not have power, check with neighbors to see if they have power.

4. To report a power failure or other emergency, please phone 1-800-833-2611 or 273-2611. These phone numbers are monitored around the clock, 365 days per year to accept your outage and emergency calls.

5. In the event that you are unable to contact the Cooperative at either of the above numbers, you may call the home of your area serviceman on weekdays (from 4:30 p.m. through 7:30 a.m.) or on weekends to report outages or emergencies. If you do not receive an answer or if the phone is busy, please call 1-800-833-2611 or 273-2611 (COLLECT) to report your outage or emergency situation.

6. Please be prepared to give the party answering your call the account name and location number as it appears on the envelope that contains your billing tickets.

1-800-833-2611



The SOUTHEASTERN LIGHT

SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative Eldorado, Illinois



General Manager's Comments

James M. "Mick" Cummins

In 1992, SouthEastern participated in a statewide market study of rural electric cooperative members. A primary purpose of this study was to assess changes which had occurred between 1992 and previous studies done in 1986 and 1989. One of the survey questions asked members to identify their principal source of income. Surprisingly, some 55 percent of SouthEastern members, responding to this question, said they were living on fixed incomes, further described as follows:

Social Security:	30%
Retirement Pensions:	18.2%
Investments:	1.9%
Government Aid:	5.4%
Other:	.2%

This information made it apparent that many of SouthEastern's members might benefit from a "levelized" or "budget payment plan" and in 1993, our Computer & Special Projects Staff began working on such a concept. That plan is now available to the membership and is similar to plans offered by other utilities because there is no balloon payment to make at the end of the year.

SouthEastern members, who elect to participate in levelized billing, will read their meters monthly just as they did previously, the only difference being in the predetermined amount of money to send with each billing ticket.

Each levelized account will be reviewed twice a year and the member will be notified of any adjustment in their budget payment amount. It's a simple and effective system, and if you are living on a fixed income, or for other reasons need to level out or budget your monthly bills, give us a call at 1-800-833-2611. Until then, we'll keep the lights on for you.

Elk provide ag opportunity

When Gary and Ocie Paxton set out to get into agriculture, they knew they weren't going to get into row cropping, or start a beef, swine or dairy operation. So they set about looking for a creative way of utilizing their 44 acres of logged-over land near Elizabethtown.

The fact that Gary is an avid hunter played a big part in their decision to raise elk on their place. "I'd hunted whitetail deer and turkey in the area," he says, "and I really liked it here. I'd built a little hunting cabin, and I'd come down here several times from the Springfield area with Ocie."

As time went by, they decided to move to the place, enlarge the cabin, and try to make a living by serving the growing market for elk.

Ocie, who had grown up in the Mt. Pleasant and Ashland area, sold her Springfield business, Office Concepts, a business services operation. She now sells real estate out of a Harrisburg office. Gary, who's been in the scrap battery business since getting out of high school in 1960, decided to stay in that business, at least until the elk operation is up and running.

"I built an 8' fence around a 12-acre area," he says, "and I made sure it had some good cover. There's a good-sized pond, too. I put in a 28-month-old bull and six cows, all about a year younger than the bull."

But this isn't just any bull, he says, adding that the magnificent animal has siblings all over the world. "He's far bigger than most bulls at his age," Gary says, "and his antlers are much more impressive than most, too. While he's less than three years old, people who know elk and know what to look for will still mistake him for as much as a four-year-old."

He notes that the demand for elk is growing, and that there is a market for animals, meat and antlers. "Elk, like deer, lose their antlers every year," Gary says, "and when the new ones grow in, they're soft and velvety. If you cut them off at that time, there are pharmaceutical companies that'll buy them."

Elk farming is good for him, he says, in that the animals don't require too much space, are hardy, can eat almost anything,



Gary Paxton and his wife, Ocie, moved from central Illinois to the Elizabethtown area to grow elk. Note height of the fence behind him.

and bring a good price.

"They're not like cows," he says, "in that they'll eat old oak leaves and twigs and the like, and they'll thrive on them. And unlike cows, they won't eat some of the plants, like jimson weed, that are bad for them."

Probably the biggest danger to them, in fact, is overfeeding. Elk will eat more grain than they should, if given the opportunity. "I've heard of animals foundering on grain," he says, "and

corn's supposed to be especially bad for that.

"I read a magazine article not long ago entitled 'Loving Them to Death,' and it told how elk, and especially cows, are harmed by overfeeding. Their fat builds up largely in the pelvic area, making calving difficult.

"I feed mine chopped alfalfa, corn, oats, soybean pellets, and trace minerals. The bull will eat first, and he'll push the cows away until he's had what he wants. He has a couple of favorite cows that he'll let eat with him after he gets good and started, and the others are just out of luck. I have a second trough for them, or they wouldn't get anything but browse."

The operation is going pretty much as planned, and Gary is working to enclose another 12-acre patch to put another batch of animals in. "You have to have a space between the enclosures," he stresses, "or the bulls will fight, even through a fence, when they're in rut. I've got a good wide alleyway laid out, so I'll be able to drive all the way around each pen, and they'll be well separated, too. They'll kill each other if they can."

While the farm is surrounded by a tall fence, and elk can manage pretty well on their own against predators, the Paxtons worry somewhat about people. "Elk are wild animals," Gary says, "and they can hurt someone if people are careless around them. The fence is partly to keep elk in and people out, to protect people. After all, elk are wild animals, and they're not too predictable. I'm always afraid people will come out and think this is something like a petting zoo. It really isn't."

While the place isn't a petting zoo, it is a start on a new business that's taking hold in Southern Illinois!

A history of Christmas lights

As the Christmas season of 1882 approached, Edward Johnson was trying to think of a way to make things more festive. As a vice-president of Thomas Edison's newly formed electric company, he knew that just about anything he wanted to do would be affordable. And he knew that electricity would play a part.

It was just three years after Edison had unveiled his new light bulb, and Johnson decided to decorate a tree with the new gadgets. He didn't seek publicity for the idea, but a reporter for the now-defunct Detroit Post and Tribune spied the tree in Johnson's New York City home.

He wrote: "There at the rear of the beautiful parlors, was a large Christmas tree presenting a most picturesque and uncanny aspect. It was brilliantly lighted with many colored globes about as large as an English walnut and was turning some six times a minute on a little pine box. There were 80 lights in all encased in these dainty glass eggs, and about equally divided between white, red and blue. As the tree turned, the colors alternated, all the lamps going out and being relit at every revolution. The result was a continuous twinkling of dancing colors, red, white, blue, white, red, blue, all evening."

The electric tree was a sensation among the monied class at the turn of the century, according to Phillip Snyder, who researched the history of the Christmas tree for a book called, "The Christmas Tree Book."

Within a few years, the wealthy were sparing no expense to construct the grandest, most brilliantly illuminated trees that 1890s technology allowed.

Christmas tree parties became big social events. In 1895, President Grover Cleveland put electric lights on his White House Christmas tree. A few years ear-

lier, the New York Hospital put an electric tree in its children's ward.

"It was so arranged as to revolve slowly, and as it moved electric lights shone from each of its boughs. The children, many of whom had never seen anything half so fine, shouted with delight," wrote a New York Times reporter who visited the hospital to see the tree—still a novelty in 1891.

But it didn't take long for the trees to spark controversy. A few years after it had waxed euphoric over the hospital tree, the Times was concerned that the whole electric Christmas tree idea was



getting out of hand.

"The little children of the rich have grown critical with overabundance, and nothing short of an electric tree, with fairy effects. . . satisfies them," an editorialist wrote. In those days the lights, and the electricity to run them through a Christmas season, could cost \$2,000.

The early electric trees were customized in every sense of the word. Each bulb was hand-wired. Individual bulbs were bought or even rented for the season. Wiring a tree required hiring a skilled electrician.

In 1903, the Ever-Ready Company of New York began manufacturing ready-made strings of electric lights. An "outfit," as they were called, contained 28 sockets with General Electric (GE) bulbs, and cost \$12, about what a laborer earned in a week.

Throughout the early decades of the century, the primary unit of the electric tree, the bulb, was being refined. The original

Christmas tree bulbs were tiny replicas of the classic light bulb.

In about 1910, GE went to a ball-shaped bulb, which was colored with translucent paint.

In the early days of the century, there was much more variety in tree lights. Each light was considered a separate work of art—with bulbs shaped like strawberries, clowns, snowmen, roses and Santa Claus. By the end of World War II, however, such detail seemed quaint.

The 1950s saw a brief vogue of bubble lights, the long narrow bulbs with colored liquid inside that bubbled at the temperature of an average light bulb. For a time, no tree was without its string of gaudy, bubbling lights.

By the 1960s, the bubble light was almost gone from the American landscape, a victim of oversaturation.

In the 1970s the new star of Christmas tree lights was the midget bulb—the tiny twinkling light that gave a fresh look to the Christmas tree. The softer, more pastel colors could be clustered together for an effect like the nighttime sky.

So what's next?

This is the year your Christmas tree can fade, chase, bloom, blink, wink and twinkle like never before.

Christmas tree light companies are planning new products, including strings of tiny bulbs that can perform several functions at up to 15 different speeds. Strings of bulbs will have four colors light in sequence, the lights "chase" up the tree then back down at a variety of speeds, then have the colors fade one at a time.

Some of the lighting products can be programmed to perform as many as seven different effects—all for about \$25.

Then again, somewhere in the attic are those strings of bubble lights.

Bollman at climbing school

Scott Bollman developed his skills recently during a "climbing school." Bollman, on the pole, is pictured with instructors Alan Pinkstaff, left, and Floyd Sphar. Bollman learned efficient and safe pole climbing techniques, and took classroom courses in electrical theory and application. The two-week school, sponsored by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, was held at Springfield, from October 17-28.



New members of your cooperative

Welcome to all new SEIEC members who officially became a part of the cooperative family in September 1994!

Gary S. Vaughn
Paula Arrowood
Kenneth D. Butler
Bobby G. Chamness
Virginia E. Dunn
Dianne Gravatt
Treva K. Harding
Curtis Key
Frances J. Kubinski
David L. Myers
Roberta Gooch Odom
Anthony Ryan Payne
Patricia Rhoads
Larmon Shaneyfelt

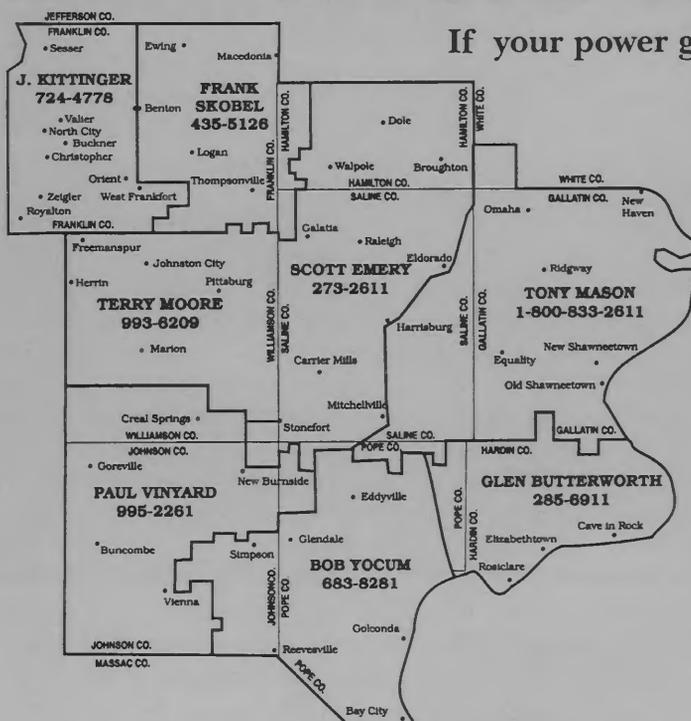
John Summers
Michael W. Thompson
Thomas Watkins
Steven A. Wheeler
Stephen Paul Simpson
Shari Birch
Brett Campbell
James S. Cowser
Raymond J. Gill
Joel M. Grider
Darek Jack
Michael B. Klempin
Ola M. Lock
James E. Neal

Penny N. Ogarek
Donald W. Petty
Paul Russo
William A. Snodgrass
Nicole L. Taylor
Alta L. Underwood
James Watson Sr.
Harold R. Delap
Michael Allen
Roxanne Bryant
Rick Carter
Charles C. Dillon
Allan Gosnell
Pearl Hamilton Jr.

Kevin C. Jennings
Don Kruep
Keith L. Mangrum
William W. Ninness Jr.
Jason Pappas
Lazaro L. Pineda
Sharon Shanahan
Shirley J. Street
David L. Teal Jr.
Richard A. Walter
Joshua West
Ann R. Lovell

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