

McDonough Power Cooperative

Macomb, Illinois 61455

Across the Manager's Desk



By Dickson L. Dunsworth



Health and happiness to you and your family!

Another holiday season — a new year on the way!

It's a busy and festive time for everyone, but take a moment to think about a resolution or two for the future.

At the top of our list is a pledge to continue

providing the best service possible for you — our consumer-owners — because the co-op belongs to you and your neighbors.

We also invite you to share your thoughts and ideas with us to let us know how we're doing in serving you and our community.

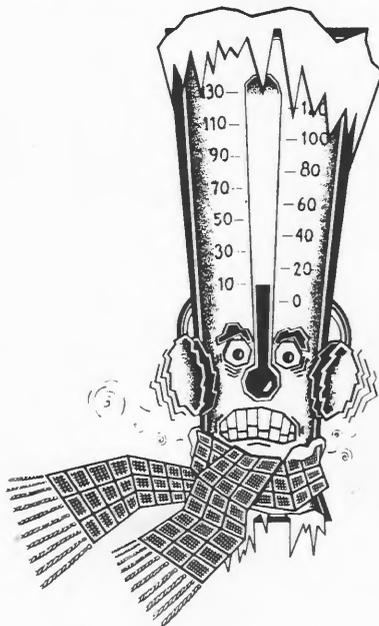
So, enjoy the holidays, make a resolution or two, and may you welcome in the New Year with good health, happiness and prosperity!

Learn to recognize hypothermia symptoms

Older people are especially susceptible to hypothermia — a reduced body temperature that can be life-threatening. but anyone, regardless of age, can suffer from hypothermia.

Watch for these symptoms in others:

- Poor coordination and slowing of pace
- Thickness of speech
- Blueness of skin; dilated pupils
- Weak or irregular pulse



And, in yourself:

- Intense shivering; fatigue
- Feeling of deep cold
- Intense thirst
- Poor articulation and coordination

Check with a health-care expert or agency to find out more about hypothermia and the proper first-aid tips you should follow. Or, check with us on how to get additional information on becoming hypothermia-smart.

Do you know these people?

Below is a full list of people who have not claimed their capital credit check for the years 1974-75. We need a current mailing address for each person or, if the person is deceased, the name

and address of their nearest living relative. If you have any information pertaining to these people, please contact McDonough Power Cooperative at 309/833-2101.

ARKANSAS

Leslie
Ashton, Harold
Mountain Home
Rinker, Albert

CALIFORNIA

Burbank
Gordon, Donald
Claremont
Vanness, Peter W.
Cotati
Weidner, Ronald
Lincoln
Tetley, Sidney
Ocean Side
Doole, John

COLORADO

Clifton
Rowland, Jim
New Castle
Benso, Frank
Parker
McGee, Charles

FLORIDA

Fort Myers
Wallace, Elizabeth
Golden Gate
Bryan, Ben
Maitland
Guest, T.A.
Middleburg
Dike, Paul
Sarasota
Gordon, R.D.

GEORGIA

Sun City
Johnson, Richard

IOWA

Davenport
Janeczko, Bob
Des Moines
Powell, Joan
Iowa City
Conti, Dennis
Kalona
Krohn, Marvin

ILLINOIS

Abingdon
Abingdon Rock Co.
Bent, Vern
Bond, William L.
Courson, Mrs. Dake L.
Dunn, James
Hall, Patricia
Head, Bill
Housh, Michael
Johnson, James W.
Johnson, Ronald L.
Jones, Gary
Morris, Bill

Morrison, Robert
Niles, Don
Powell, Frances
Purchase, Gerald L.
Steagall, Doris
Stevenson, Andrew
Adair

Bartlett, Robert L.
Clemens, Wayne
Danner, Roger
Dennis, Wayne
Dickerson, Harley
Hamm, Paul
Kirchner, Lorelei
Moulten, Wayne
Mullen, Gerald
Norris, Dean A.
Skien, Bill L.
Weaver, Gary S.
Wilson, Dean
Addison

Hammond, Gloria J.
Miller, Wendy
Albany
Medema, Vicki
Aledo

Carlson, Ernie
Alsip
Sands, Robert L.
Alton
Jackson, Robert Jr.
Shartzler, Carol J.
Arlington Heights

Anderson, Keith
Astoria
Douglas, Margaret
Hedrick, Orville
Augusta

Lantz, Eugene
Aurora
Goncher, John
Avon

Black, Ora
Black, Rhoda
Daugherty, Tim
Demler, Dewey A.
Durie, Bernice
Fisher, Charles
Garrett, Danny L.
Hamilton, Kenneth
Hiel, Wayne
Mills, John H.

Myers, Peggy
Pilkington, Ron
Potter, Milinda
Woods, Eugene
Bardolph

Talley, Connie
Yelton, Russell
Barrington
Heyne, Robert
Barry

Yeomans, Jeff S.
Basco
Woodside, Loren
Belvidere

Fetzer, Craig
Berwick
Brown, Lee
Carlson, Erving
Carson Seed Farms
Carlson, Eugene
Fields, William
Johnson, Mike

Blandinsville
Chipman, Orin
Collins, Jerry
Driskell, Wendell G. Jr.
Erbsen, Larry
Flesner, David
Gray, Orland
Guiher, Robert
Markham, Carolyn E.
Ramsey, William Jo
Ruebush, Raynold
Sanderson, Ronnie
Smith, Howard B.
Travis, Thomas
Wilson, Steve D.
Wisslead, John
Bloomington
Boulhouse, Paul
Smith, Al

Bourbonnais
Smith, Robert L.
Bown
Sullivan, Edgar
Bryant
Mayberry, Sherry
Bushnell

Barnes, W.R.
Biggsby, Levi
Helms, Alta
Helms, Bernard
Henert, Helen
Hopping, Dennis
Kitch, Richard
Lewallen, William
Lindy Adv. Co.

Lutz, Norman
Maloney, James
McLaurin, Michael
Morris, E.R.
Sandelin, Dale
Slayden, Frank
Taylor, Gary
Weaver, Danny
Calumet City

Billeck, Timothy
Cambridge
Horberg, David
Cameron
Christianson, Richard
Dickerson, John
Ennis, Rebecca
Keith Edward
Kness, Don
McDonald, Ken
Morse, Leland
Camron
Davis, Sylvia
Canton

Smith, Jean
Carbondale
Wall, Joseph
Carman
Henson, Jerry E.
Carthage
Fentem, Glen
Champaign
Czach, Marie
Draper, Charles
Channahon
Faynik, Michael J.
Chatham
O'Connor, Timothy
Chicago
Dubs, Steven K.
Herrick, Thomas
Jack, Bruck
Jaskieriski, Carol
Kappel, John
Nootbaar, Gregg E.
Wilcinski, Alan
Colchester

Abel, William
American Oil Co.
Anderson, Jack P.
Ashby, Thomas
Barry, Dale
Brandyberry, Gregg
Boston, Leslie
Chapin, Robert
Connolly, James P.
Coughlin, Edward
Depoy, Harry
Donham, Mark
Dunbar, David
Hagedorn, Eugene
Harlin, Gerald
Jackson, Joe
Konkler, Alberta
Lewis, Blanche
Longcor, Richard
Martin, Larry W.
Mason, Silas
Meloan, Robert
Miller, Albert
Nickerson, Lewis
Phillips, Warren
Potter, Raymond
Powell, Don L.
Reed, Leila
Reynold, Paul
Sanderson, Ronnie
Schultz, Joseph
Selby, Robert
Sherrill, David
Simmons, Essie
Teel, Roger R.
Welch, Wilma
Wilson, Jim E.

Crystal Lake
McKinley, Denee C.
Walters, Donald Jr.
Cuba
Bainbridge, Darlene
Dallas City

Shoemaker, Roy
De Kalb

Lopez, Jose
Decatur
Reedy, Chris
Decatur
Sanner, William
Dolton
Farr, Rhonda

Downers Grove
Hannemann, Daniel
Tillotson, Geoffre
East Alton
Schrodeder, Barbara
East Galesburg
Waller, Steven
East Peoria
Meyer, Florine
Powley, C.A. Co.
Elgin

Hirschberg, Mary
Elk Grove Village
Vonschaumburg, Mark
Elmhurst

Rappuhn, David
Trinex, Cathy
Evergreen Park
Lorenz, Curtis
Prevallet, William
Fairview

Beckwith, Margaret
Franklin
Hennes, Mark
Galesburg
Bracken, Mrs. C.
Carrel, Betty J.
Carson, Robert L.
Fitchpatrick, Chloe L.

Galusha, Raymond
Glas, Robert F.
Jennings, Phillips
Koker, William
Layton, Wilford
Legate, John M.
Martin, Phillip
Mathews, James
Meadows, David
Miller, Howard E.
Pickrell, Jesse
Richardson, Chester
Ryan, Mrs. C.

Sailer, Kenneth
Scott, Terry
Standard, Rod
Svob, Patricia
Tulin, Anita J.
Walker, Josephine
Walters, Harold
Weis, Vernon
Weiss, Melvin
Wilkins, Bruce
Winicker, Carl
Glenview
Dewitz, Randall
Rosander, John B.
Wiemer, Craig
Good Hope

Aulen, Eldon S.
 Bartell, James
 Clippenger, Michael
 Eisfelder, Harry
 Fishman, Norman
 Fowler, Larry
 Henning, Bill
 Robertson, Thomas
 Ryder, Gerald
 Swindle, Frank H.
 Webb, Marie
 Greenville
 Christin, F.W.
 Harmon
 Henry, Judi
 Havana
 Edwards, Lewis
 Henderson
 Johanson, Steven E.
 Hillsboro
 Johnson, Michail
 Hillside
 Blaszkowski, Margaret
 Industry
 Atherton, Ruth
 Harding, Daniel A.
 Murfon, Nancy
 Nelson, Terry S.
 Rizzo, William
 Ipava
 Amax Coal Co.
 Jacksonville
 Allison, Brenda
 Gasseling, Thomas A.
 Kampsville
 Blanchard, William
 Kankakee
 Carver, Catherine
 Kewanee
 Perry, Raymond
 Kirkwood
 Gearhart, Jerry W.
 Winters, Robert
 Knoxville
 Reynolds, Verne
 Wilcoxon, Charles
 La Grange
 Devorshak, John
 Turek, Andrew
 La Grange Park
 Jacobs, John
 Lewistown
 Featherlin, Ronald
 Hempen, Edward
 Kline, John
 Lincoln
 Appel, Greg H.
 Littleton
 Irwin, Guy
 Kimple, Max
 Mercer, Glenn
 Randall, Omer
 Trone, Donald
 London Mills
 Hicks, Michael
 Linc, Ivan
 Lyndon
 Housenga, Brad R.
 Macomb
 A.H.T. Farms
 Action, Frank
 Adams, Linda J.
 Ahart, Jerry
 Akiwowo, Kayode
 Albright, Frank Jr.

Allen, Sidney
 Alsip, James
 Ambrose, Janet
 American Oil Co.
 Attn: W.R. Larson
 Anderson, Diane S.
 Anderson, Ralph
 Anderson, Susan
 Andrews, Sanchia
 Ard, Mike
 Armstrong, John R.
 Asbell, Lloyd R.
 Augustine, Jean M.
 Baily, John
 Bainter, Bonnie
 Bainter, Ruth
 Baldrige, James
 Baldwin, Stephen
 Barnes, Amy
 Bartlett, Robert
 Bartosik, Wayne
 Bastable, Irene Dorothy
 Estate
 Baumgardner, Larry
 Bay, Robert
 Belna, Charles
 Bergman, Stephen
 Berthel, Thomas
 Beyer, Lynn
 Bieschke, Martin P.
 Bigony, Ronald
 Blessman, Gary
 Bollengier, Dianne
 Boone, Larry
 Bowman, Duane
 Bradfield, James
 Bradford, Gary L.
 Brady, Michael
 Brandmeyer, Jacquelyn
 Brauer, Laura
 Bredden, Mark
 Brewer, James W.
 Brierton, John
 Briggs, Fred H.
 Brockman, Pamela
 Brodine, Jerome
 Brown, Chris
 Brown, Craig
 Brown, Eugene A.
 Brown, Glen
 Brown, Glenn
 Brown, Kenneth
 Brown, Marshal
 Bruegger, Bruce
 Bryan, Debbie
 Buecker, Steven
 Butcher, Gregory
 Butcher, Terry
 Butler, Dave
 Cahill, Jack L.
 Cali, Carmen
 Campbell, Stanley
 Carlson, Debbie
 Carper, Paul
 Carter, Jesse
 Carter, Timothy
 Cashmer, Dale
 Chandler, Loren
 Chatterton, Carman
 Cheng, Bai Chang Yei
 Chrusciel, Mark
 Clift, Alvin
 Close, Minnie Estate
 Conant, James
 Conner, John E.

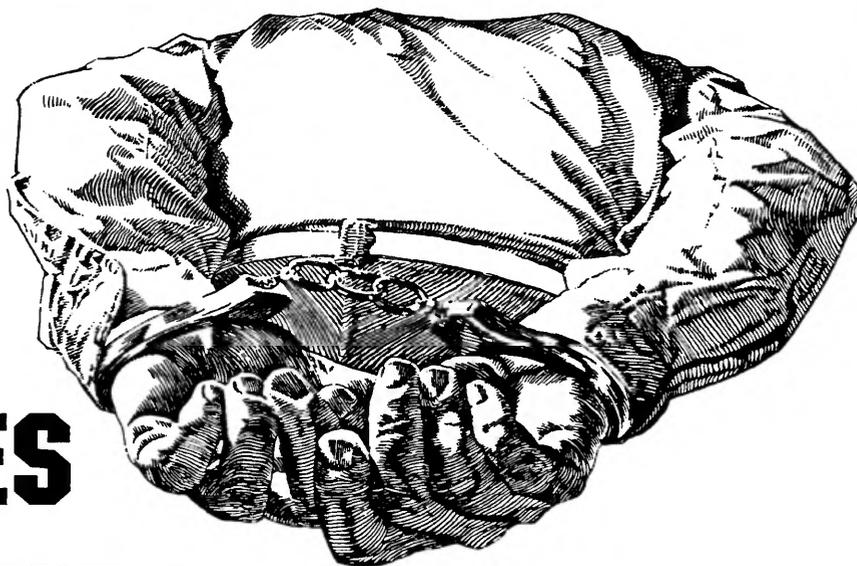
Cooley, Joseph A.
 Coultis, Jude
 Cox, Kay
 Cox, Richard
 Crox, Kathleen
 Curl, Stephen
 Curry, Beverly
 Curths, William
 Curtis, Betty
 Curtis, C.V.
 Danner, Flossie
 De Garmo, Mildred
 De Witt, Gerald
 Deasey, Toni
 Degrott, Barbara
 Depuy, Joan D.
 Derry, Joyce
 Dobbs, Ronald
 Donaldson, Mary C.
 Donham, Mark
 Dorethy, Ed
 Dowdall, Stephen R.
 Ebo moyi, Ehigie
 Fairman, John
 Feuchter, James B.
 Fleischacker, Bernard
 Fleming, David
 Foley, Darrell D.
 Fouts, Martha E.
 Foxall, Vicki
 Fugate, Gwendolyn
 Fugate, Martha
 Gaca, Jerome
 Gailey, Mary
 Galiffa, Debbie
 Garo, Steven
 Garrity, David
 Gaul, Netta
 Gleason, Linda
 Gragg, Donald
 Graham, Dorothy
 Graham, John
 Graham, Tom
 Gray, Zelma
 Gregg, Martha
 Grisham, Martin
 Grossnickle, Dane E.
 Gullberg, Kim
 Gustafson, Julie A.
 Haluzak, Nestor L.
 Hamm, Myrian L.
 Harkey, David B.
 Harper, Patricia
 Harper, Richard
 Hays, Mary Jo
 Hayward, Paul
 Heath, William
 Heiser, Steven
 Herbert, Mark
 Hewitt, Roger
 Hill, Leonard
 Hillard, Edward D.
 Hourigan, Nancy
 Hubbard, Edwin
 Huett, Michael
 Huff, Cynthia
 Huff, Terry
 Jackson, Ethel W.
 Jennings, Phillip
 Johnson, Gene
 Johnson, Georgin
 Johnston, Howard H.
 Jones, Michelle
 Kane, Raymond
 Keating, Norine

Keim, Ricky
 Keithley, Leland
 Kelso Estate
 Kenney, Lawrence
 Kistler, Thomas
 Knott, Donald
 Koenig, Dawn
 Kolari, James
 Kolts, Dean
 Kul, Steve
 Langford, Lonny
 Lantz, Diana
 Learch, Barbara J.
 Louderman, Jerris
 Lovan, Claude
 Main, David
 Martin, Gretchen
 Martin, Hansel
 Mathews, Vanessa
 McGuire Farm
 McInney, Mary Lo
 McKee, Paul R.
 McKinzey, Kathryn
 McKirgan, Susan
 McMillen, Garnet E.
 Estate
 McMullen, Larry
 Medina, Fernand O.
 Miller, Walter A.
 Miner, Mark
 Minnie, Pam
 Moore, Helen
 Mudge, Martin
 Murphy, Elizabeth
 Murphy, Michael
 Murray, Steven
 Myler, Maryrose
 Nauman, John G.
 Nelson, Rick
 Newells Inc.
 Nowlain, Richard
 O'Keefe, John
 Oakley, Dennis
 Oakley, Dennis M.
 Ohlsen, Donald R.
 Oudersluys, Gary
 Park, Richard
 Pascuzzi, Dborah
 Pengilly, Sylvia
 Peterson, Kay
 Pfohl, Paul G.
 Pistole, Patricia
 Plassman, Debbie
 Plumlee, Glen
 Porch, Joyce A.
 Powell, Sandra
 Propper, Jean
 Pullins, Charles R.
 Rainbolt, Jon
 Rayman, Ronald
 Reeves, Conni
 Renner, Willard
 Reno, Chris
 Rhea, Alva
 Ridge, Franklin
 Rippelmeyer, Mark
 Rittenhouse, Larry
 Rockett, Richard
 Roe, Jim
 Ross, Daniel
 Rowland, Jim
 Rudd, Jodi
 Rude, Jeffrey L.
 Sanchez, Jerry
 Sappington, Juanita

Sayre, John
 Scharback, Donald
 Schnock, Susan
 Scott, Judy L.
 Scott, Steve R.
 Severns, Terry
 Shintani, Lorine
 Shores, Richard D.
 Sikma, Ronald
 Simmons, Kenneth
 Skobel, Sam
 Skrysak, Robert P.
 Smith, Brian
 Smith, Debbie
 Smith, Douglas
 Sprinkle, Vernon
 Staebler, Laura M.
 Starr, William
 Steele, Betty
 Stoneking, Terry A.
 Stoneking, Vicky
 Straley, Gail
 Streeter, Jacques
 Stump, Louise
 Sumco Construction
 Swanson, Ordell
 Swindel, Douglas
 Tatham, Bev
 Tatham, Gay
 Teerlinck, Carol
 Thompson, David A.
 Thompson, Hildred
 Thompson, Mary
 Thurman, John
 Trenkle, Patricia
 Turner, Mark
 Venhuizen, Christine
 Walizak, Wayne
 Walton, Dennis
 Ward, Roger
 Watson, David
 Watson, Linda
 Watson, Robert D.
 Wells, Mrs. Ralph
 Wes-State Community
 Bldg.
 Westover, Lewis
 Wharton, Richard
 White, John L.
 Wilde, Sue Ann
 Williams, Darrell
 Williams, Peggy
 Wozniak, William
 Young, Jill
 Young, Raymond
 Zaborac Electric
 Zander, Glenn J.
 Zielinski, Dennis
 Maquon
 Brown, Carl E.
 Media
 Covert, Warren
 Day, Richard
 Mendota
 Joerger, David
 Winstead, Mark
 Metamora
 Grzych, Frank J.
 Milan
 Steffek, Donald
 Mokena
 Roach, William
 Moline
 Holmes, Jessie
 Williams, Mrs. Ross
 Monmouth

Bachman, Donna J.	Severns, Terry	Skinner, Gene D.	Dunkelberger, Dave	OHIO
Bent, James	Prairie City	Table Grove	Salina	Lima
Bower, Gerald	Braatz, Charles	Cox, Helen	Bieterman, Robert	Thompson, Mary M.
Brooks, David L.	Forman, Elizabeth	Mullen, Claude	Shawnee	
Cole, Robert E.	Paul, Randall	Wilson, Randy	Robbins, John D.	OKLAHOMA
Davis, Carl	Quincy	Taylorville	Ulysses	Stillwater
Flaherty, Charles	Doht, Katherine	Larson, Theodore Estate	Wayland, Paul	Moustafa, Safwat
Gillette, Michael	Sparrow, Gene	Tennessee		Reinsch, Lamar
Hale, Michael	Rio		KENTUCKY	
Hanley, Lawrence	Oldham, Gary	Burton, Shirley	Louisville	OREGON
Hennenfent, Thomas	River Forrest	Cook, Gerald	Horton, John	Milwaukee
Hill, Norman	Vorhies, William Jr.	Daniels, Gerald		Larimer, Verne
Jacobs, Bernice Estate	Rock Island	Gordon, Gary A.	LOUISIANA	Onstario
Johnson, Cheryl L.	Long, Donna	Harding, Daniel	Hammond	Mason, Roberta
Johnson, Wayne E.	Semonis, Richard	Richards, Robert J.	Bell, John	
Kingsburg, C.R.	Rockford	Schisler, F.L.		PENNSYLVANIA
Kinkaid, Clara	Conlee, Wayne	Wayland, Karen	MAINE	Pittsburgh
McIntyre, John	Loebach, Michael	Webb, Lotus	South Bristol	Leigh, Ramona
Model Clothing	Tehan, Mikki	Tivoli	Clark, Alan M.	
O'Brian, Robert	Roseville	Daniels, Gerald		SOUTH DAKOTA
Osborn, Ellen	Bridger, John	Urbana	MICHIGAN	Sioux Falls
Peters, Everett	Cameron, Edward	Alexander, Susan J.	Detroit	Wetzel, Alan
Rankin, Glenn O. Estate	Champion, Erma	Cunningham, Kevin M.	Frey, Carl	
Sholl, Mildred	Gilbert, Donald M.	Vandalia	Grand Blanc	TENNESSEE
Simmons, Jody	Harper, David W.	Mowen, Ronald E.	Schafer, Larry	Columbia
Stahl, Carol	Lec, Ben M.	Nash, Tony	Holland	Hardison, Robert
Titus, Evelyn K.	Pettit, Gregory	Vermont	Westenfelder, Terry	Johnson City
Turner, Wendell	Sprinkle, Michael	Baughman, Herbert	South Field	Gibbs, James
Vanskike, Jerry	Welsh, Howard	Curless, Ronald	Shoemate, Kathy	Memphis
Western Stoneware	Wingfield, Harlan	Danner, Glenn		Grace, W. Co.
Wetzel, Robert W.	Rushville	Lotz, C.W.	MINNESOTA	Smyrna
Morton Grove	Atwood, Elmer	Miller, Sherman	Duluth	Shamblin, Bonnie Jean
Butler, Bonnie L.	Beam, Jesse	Self, Robert	Comella, Frank	
Mt. Carmel	Goodwin, Lester	Victoria	Lewiston	TEXAS
Hayes, Robert	Pelton, William	Wingo, Linda	Cassel, Ronald	Dickinson
Mt. Prospect	Toland, Glade	Virginia		Edwards, Louis
Nuenthel, Don	Sandwich	Ethel N. Boyd Estate	MISSOURI	Irving
Naperville	Fanning, Mark	Washington	Agency	Cox, Marvin
Tondi, Aldo J.	Savanna	Murphy, Nancy	Teel, Roy	Rockport
Neoga	Bradshaw, C.S.	Watson	Utsinger, Marion	Waller
Bradford, Gary L.	Sciota	Poc, Daniel R.	Schneider, John	Turnquist, Steve
Niles	Douglas, Michael	Wauconda	Ellington	
Brennan, Anne	Rolland, Lloyd	Fehmel, Dietmar	Sanders, Jenny	UTAH
Nokomis	Shannon	Waukegan	Ewing	Midvale
Thornton, John W.	Timm, Raymond	Desmond, Christi	Giller, James	Hirtzel, Rich
North Henderson	Sherman	Opity, Debra	Harris	Salt-Lake City
Hillard, Lonnie	Allison, Michael	West Chester	Fogle, Mike	Stoll, Walter
Paloma	Skokie	Joyce, Donna	Richland	
Fritz, Gary L.	D'Antonio, Ramona	West Chicago	Allen, Mrs. Ed	VIRGINIA
Pana	Smithshire	Chicago Northern RR	St. Charles	Lynchburg
Woodward, Stephen	Worthington, David T.	Williamsfield	Mac Kaben, William	Huston, Mitchel L.
Park Ridge	Springfield	Helander, Michael	St. Louis	Petersburg
Routh, Diane	Alter, R.	Winthrop Harbor	Glasecock, Kathy	Whitaker, Stanley
Schreck, Kathleen	Barrass, Edward	Rushforth, Mary	Taylor	
Pekin	Brown, David F.	Woodhull	Clark, Mike	WISCONSIN
Drake, Edward	Hickey, Michael	Strange, Mike		Onalasha
Erleben, E.H.	Lunt, Larry	INDIANA	MONTANA	Bottin, Ronald
Mortimeyer, John A.	McKay, Brian	Bloomington	Augusta	Onalaska
Peoria	Miller, Charlene	Schroth, Richard	Nelson, Robert	Hill, Leonard M.
Downes, Joy R.	Nielsen Property Co. Inc.	Brazil	St. Ignatius	Waukesha
Parker, Mona	Pettinger, Harold	Shoemaker, Keith	Kozel, Joseph Estate	Bosin, Donald
Ross, Daniel R.	Traylor, Ken	Hammond		
Sergery, Nancy	Verona, Kevin A.	Morris, Everett	NORTH CAROLINA	
Yaw, Robin	Wagner, William	Logansport	Charlotte	
Peoria Heights	St. Augustine	Taylor, Larry	Rhyherd, L.M.	
Strickler, Mary A.	Ashby, Keith	Patska	Franklin	
Pittsfield	Benge, Robert W.	Gile, Billie	Krtitz, Beverlee A.	
Loyd, Roger	Morris, Gerald	KANSAS	NEBRASKA	
Plymouth	Sterling	Hays	Lincoln	
Mercer, Bob	Wardell, John	Scadding, Fred C.	Franz, Charles	
Vaughn, Glen	Stockton	Manhattan		
Wybrant, Dorothy	Eberle, Dianne L.			
Polo	Stronghurst			

IT TAKES A THIEF...



to tamper with meters!

Tampering with an electric meter is illegal. And, it can be quite dangerous because of the possible exposure to high voltage.

When a person steals electricity, the thief is stealing from neighbors and fellow cooperative members who ultimately pay for the stolen power. Theft of electricity is also a violation of Illinois state law...with all the penalties that go with conviction.

Seals on meters are like locks on doors, discouraging unauthorized entry. If your meter needs attention, please contact your cooperative's office.



Electric Cooperatives of Illinois

Watts New

McDonough Power Cooperative

Macomb, Illinois 61455

Across the Manager's Desk

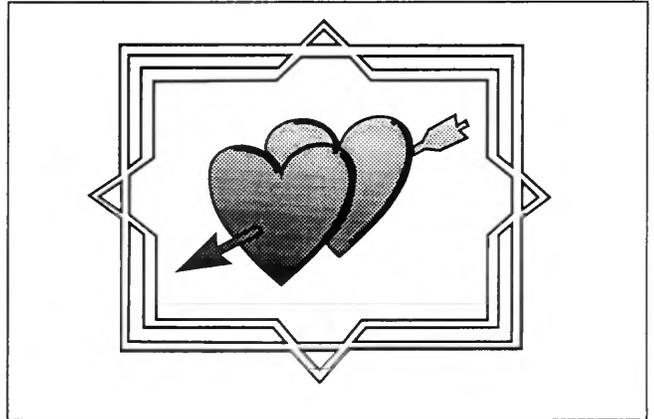


By Dickson L. Dunsworth

As we think of a Valentine's Day gift for that special someone, why not consider a unique gift?

For a nominal monthly rental charge, McDonough Power will install a 100 watt, H.P. sodium, security light and will be responsible for the maintenance of the light. This can provide safety and security to anyone at night time.

McDonough Power also has an array of surge protection devices and high efficiency light bulbs on display. Please call or stop by the office sometime soon and check out our selection.



Is your home wiring adequate?

- Do fuses blow or circuit breakers trip often?
- Do toasters or irons not get as hot as they should?
- Does your TV picture shrink when appliances go on?
- Do you use extension cords because there aren't enough outlets?

If you answered any questions "yes," check with a qualified repairman.

Your home wiring is just a number of loops, or circuits. A "live" wire brings current to a light or an outlet. A "neutral" wire returns current to its source. Between inside wiring and outside power lines is a service panel.

Your service panel contains fuses or circuit breakers which interrupt power to specific circuits in case of a short circuit or overload. If this hap-

pens:

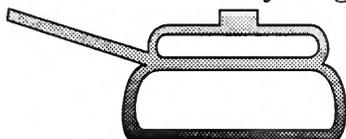
1. Unplug appliances.
2. Switch off power at the main switch.
3. Replace the fuse that has a broken meter strip with a new fuse of the same rating—typically 15 amperes.
4. If you have circuit breakers instead, switch the one that's "off" to "on."
5. Try to determine the cause of the problem.
6. Restore power.

Never put a penny or aluminum foil in a fuse box to replace a fuse. You could cause a fire.

Most service panels have a main switch. Use it to cut all power when changing a fuse, or in case of fire or shock. If you don't have a main switch, turn off all circuit breakers. Don't tamper with your electric meter. You'll risk shock, explosion or fire.

Make your kitchen energy efficient

Wise energy use in your kitchen can save you time and money—a good deal for anyone's



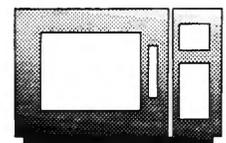
busy schedule and pocketbook.

Here are some helpful hints to get you

started:

• Use cold water rather than hot to operate your food disposer.

• Install an aerator in your kitchen sink faucet.



• Never boil water in an open pan-water will come to a boil faster and use less energy in a covered pan.

• Match the size of the pan to the heating ele-

ment; more heat will get to the pan, and less will be lost in the air.

• Use pressure cookers and microwave ovens. They reduce cooking time and save energy.

Did you know?

McDonough Power continues to offer money-saving programs. Some of the programs offered are as follows:

Geothermal Rate—Members who have an all-electric home and use a geothermal heating and cooling system are eligible for our special geothermal rate. A separate meter must be installed to record electricity used by the geothermal unit. All kilowatt-hours registered on this meter will be billed at 6 cents. There is a \$2.50 monthly facility charge for this meter.

Electric Heat Rate—Members using an electric heating system as their primary source of heat are eligible for our electric heat rate. Under this rate,

the first 1,000 kilowatt-hours will be billed at 10.5 cents, the next 4,000 kilowatt-hours will be billed at 6 cents, and all kilowatt-hours over 5,000 will be billed at 8 cents. This rate is applicable only during the months of October through April.

Electric Heat Rate (Metered)—Members using an electric heating system as in the above rate, but who have a separate meter installed to record only those kilowatt-hours used by the heating system, will be billed 6 cents per kilowatt-hour, plus a \$2.50 facility charge. This rate is applicable only during the month of October through April.

If you are interested, or think any of these rates apply to you, please contact our office. Remember, it is our job to help and we are just a phone call away.

Nothing beats DIRECTV™ for family entertainment.



Looking for television programs the whole family can watch? Look no further. DIRECTV brings you the very best in family viewing...with as many as 150 channels to choose from. If you want programming that satisfies every member of the family, nothing compares to DIRECTV.

The choice is clear. **DIRECTV.**



Contact McDonough Power Cooperative at 309-833-2101 for more information.

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DIRECTORS

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All Co-op Electric Outages 837-1400

Plugging those little air leaks

Now that winter is here and we've enjoyed a couple of sieges of howling winds and blowing snow, many of us have learned—again—that our houses aren't as snug as they might be.

While it would have been better to have tackled all those little chores when it's nice, it's a good bet that a lot of homeowners have let the lessons of last winter go by.

Many people have found to their dismay that their house, which seemed to be nice and snug during last year's fairly mild winter, is susceptible to cold and drafts.

Even so, there are some things that can be done, besides just turning up the thermostat and hoping for the best. Even well-built houses can have "problem" walls, usually on the north side, and also on the side facing the prevailing winds. Or both.

If you've found that you have a problem room, or if your entire house is harder to heat than you remembered, you may be able to achieve greater comfort and lower costs with a few simple remedial steps. You can do some of these repairs inside the house, no matter what the weather is like outside. For others, you may be wise to wait for a warm spell.

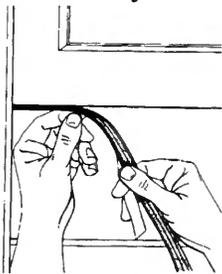
Even the best of houses will often let an amazing amount of cold air in around the electrical outlets on the outside walls. If you suspect that your outlets are leaky, wait until there's a good stiff breeze blowing outside and put your hand near the outlet. Chances are, you'll be able to feel that draft like the wall wasn't there.

Almost any home-supply store anywhere has little foam rubber backing plates that act as gaskets to minimize that problem. They are inexpensive and simple to install. All you need is a screwdriver and a few minutes. You simply take off the switch or outlet cover, place the gasket behind it, and screw the cover back on. Since this little chore is so simple and inexpensive, it probably should be your first step. If you can't do all the switches and outlets, be sure to take care of the problem ones first.

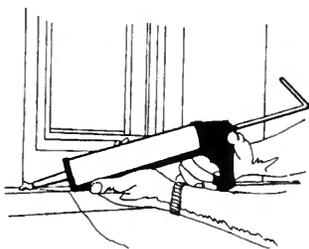
Windows can present problems, too. Often, all you need to do to check your windows is be in the same room they're in, and that'll be confirmation enough! Since they perform contradictory functions, they're fairly complex structures. They have to seal out the elements during some times, yet they need to be opened at others. Many of the problems windows give you are related to this open/

shut nature.

One of the first steps you need to take to cure your window drafts is to add weatherstripping, if there is none already there, or if what's there is no longer doing the job. You can buy little strips of adhesive-backed stripping, and they're also inexpensive. You just cut the strip to length where the window closes, peel off the tape that covers the adhesive, and apply it carefully. You'll probably need to do this at the top of the window, also.



If you feel around the outer edges of the window, inside the frame, you may still find that there's leakage. You can minimize that by putting in a shrink-fit film on the inside. While it looks like a daunting chore, it really isn't. You can buy kits at hardware and home-supply stores, and they usually include double-sided tape and enough film to do one or two windows. They come in different sizes, so you'll need to know how big your windows are. The kits are generic, so you may need to buy a larger film than you actually need and cut it to fit with scissors.



While it looks like a difficult task, the hardest part actually is peeling the backing off the silly double-sided tape!

After you get the tape up and the plastic cut to size, you apply the film, carefully, and press it against the tape, which you've peeled the backing off of, naturally. If it's not perfect, you're still okay. You can shrink it to fit with a hair dryer. Even a mediocre craftsman can do a presentable job.

Once you get that taken care of, your windows may still leak. The area around the outer edge of the window frame is often a source of difficulty, and that's a problem you'll have to go outside to take care of.

Actually, that's caused by a lack of caulking around the outside of the exterior window frame, and can be cured by the judicious application of a bead of caulk around the window. Occasionally people have tried to do a temporary interior fix with masking tape around the window frame. That works, but it's visible, unattractive, and will peel the paint off if it's left on too long. Don't do it unless there's a really horrendous draft, and you expect to be able to remove the tape and do a proper caulking job when the weather improves.

These few simple steps, most of which can be done inside the house, will help you cut your heating costs, and will make your house more comfortable, too.

When you flip a switch, you're buying power

As you walk into a room in your house, the first thing you're likely to do when you pass through the door is to hit the light switch. As you sit and begin to read, you realize things would be a little easier if you had more light, so you turn on the lamp next to your chair. Most of us do those little things without thinking about them at all.

As a matter of fact, though, you're making a buying decision each time you turn on an electrical switch. You make a buying decision when you pick something off the shelf at the supermarket, or at the boutique in the mall, or when you put gas in your car. We often fail to realize we also do it just by flipping an innocuous little switch on the wall.

If you keep that realization in mind, you also have a way to exercise a certain amount of control over your electricity bill. There are simple things you can do if you think before you buy. You can purchase electricity wisely, without losing any of the comfort and convenience it provides. Keep these factors in mind as you go about your routine at home.

Water heating

It's hard to believe, but about 15 percent of the energy we use in our homes goes to heat water. Hot water plays a very important role in everyone's lifestyle, and many lifestyles require quite a bit of hot water. Naturally, that results in higher energy use, which means that you're going to buy more electricity.

Ask yourself these questions:

"When I take a bath, do I use water sparingly, or do I fill my tub clear to the top?"

"Do I take short showers, or do I stay in the shower until the last drop of hot water's gone from the water heater?"

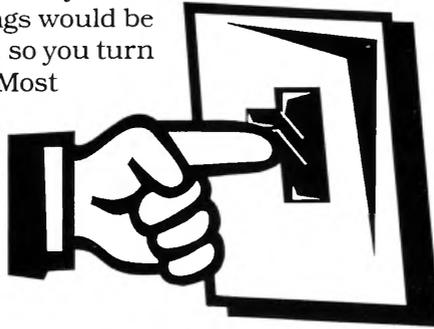
"Do I repair leaky faucets, or do I let them drip and waste hot water?"

"Do I operate automatic washers and dishwashers with a full load, or just whenever it's convenient?"

Space heating and cooling

Let's face it: Nobody likes to be too hot or too cold. That fact is reflected in our energy usage. Nearly half the energy used in American homes goes for heating and cooling. If we use dehumidifiers in the summer, or humidifiers in the winter, we're making a fairly substantial energy purchase, because such units tend to run continuously. Portable space heaters, air conditioners, and garage

and basement fans also contribute to our energy consumption.



If we take a look at our "comfort" lifestyle in terms of maintaining relative humidity and temperature, we can use energy wisely in many ways. These range from adding insulation where it's needed, to caulking and weatherstripping, to simply turning down the heat and turning off the air conditioning in a room that's not being used. When you do that, of course, you're making a decision to buy a little less electricity.

Family size

There is a direct relationship between the number of people living in a home and the amount of energy used, and that's especially true if some of the residents are teenagers. In addition, if friends and relatives are visiting, you can expect to use more energy for cooking, baking, laundry and hot water. And if you've opened up a spare room, it will cost a little extra to light it and provide heating or cooling.

Appliance use

America is a nation of gadget-lovers, and we're all looking for an appliance that will do something for us. But we need to remember: when we open a can with an electric can opener, we're making the decision to buy just a tiny bit of electricity. And when we roast a turkey in our electric oven, we're also buying energy. The truth is, though, most of us are firmly convinced that the convenience is worth the cost, and we use such appliances cheerfully.

Your appliances work for you around the clock, whenever you choose to use them, and wise use of these helpers can cut your costs.

For example, ask yourself questions like these:

"Do I turn off the lights when a room is not in use, or do I leave them on?" "Does my television set entertain the entire family, or does it play to an empty room?"

"Do I leave my oven on 'warm' for an extended period of time, or do I cook many dishes at once and then turn the oven off?"

All these considerations affect your lifestyle, and the cost of maintaining it. All Americans are part of the residential sector, and real energy management consciousness is likely to start at home.

A conscientious home and farm energy management program can pay big dividends!

Watts New

McDonough Power Cooperative

Macomb, Illinois 61455

Across the Manager's Desk



By Dickson L. Dunsworth

Have you increased your electric load?

When electricity came to the farm some 60 years ago, it was for a few light bulbs and maybe a refrigerator to replace the icebox. Farmers soon came to realize that electricity could be used to move grain, milk cows and heat water. It was like adding hired hands on the farm who were there when you needed them, but you didn't have to provide a house for them to live in.

Electricity became almost a necessity. Now we have microwave ovens, televisions, stereo systems, computers and all of the "standard" electrically operated kitchen appliances in our homes. Just stop and think about how many things you use that plug into an electric receptacle. And we are adding more and more things all the time.

But what about the wiring in our homes? Do

we consider the power supply each time we add a convenience to the home or shop? Or do we just put it in and use it?

Many of the homes in our service area are more than 50 years old. Consequently, some of the wiring in those homes may be just as old. And it may not be the proper size to handle the load we are putting on it.

That's where your electric co-op can help. We can visit your farm or home and with your help, determine what your demand for electricity might be and help you decide if your wiring system is adequate to handle that demand.

So if you are considering a change in your electric usage, call McDonough Power Cooperative. A significant increase might even require change in transformer size. We want to be able to supply you with all the electricity you need.

Don't forget . . . we are approaching lightning season again. Have you taken that step towards protecting your electronic equipment or appliances? You can help ease that worry by installing the proper surge protection. The cooperative has several types available, one for every situation or need. Remember, this equipment helps protect against other surges, not just from lightning. Contact your cooperative for more information.

Office closing

McDonough Power Cooperative will be closed April 5, 1996, to observe Good Friday. The office will reopen Monday, April 8, 1996, at 8:00 a.m.

McDonough Power Cooperative Mission Statement

McDonough Power Cooperative is a member-owned and locally controlled cooperative business whose mission is to provide, maintain and market quality electric service for the betterment of the membership and the area it serves at rates that ensure the financial soundness of the Cooperative. Adopted March 1995.

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All Co-op Electric Outages 837-1400

May we say thanks to our members

- Who call promptly to notify the office when a power outage occurs, telling us exactly where the trouble is located and the cause.
- Who grant right of way for construction and maintenance of line to serve your neighbors, providing adequate and reliable electric service to everybody on the system.
- Who notify the office when moving so electric service can be transferred to the new owner or disconnected if no one will be using power.
- Who keep television antennas, silo filling pipes and other equipment clear of falling distance on all electric lines.
- Who teach children all the rules of electric safety, both indoors and outdoors.
- Who are careful when using trucks and farm machinery around poles, lines and guy wires.
- Who use extreme care when cutting trees near your electric lines.
- Who report anything that is wrong with the lines, such as bad poles, broken guy wires, broken strands on the line conductors and cracked or broken insulators.
- Who keep signs, fence wires, nails and other hazards off the poles for the safety of our linemen.

Those confusing kilowatt-hours

Despite a monthly electric bill which outlines the kilowatt-hours used in our homes and businesses, few customers really understand what they are paying for.

A kilowatt-hour (kwh) can be defined as the amount of electricity used by a 100-watt light bulb burning for 10 hours. In terms of human, physical exertion, a kilowatt-hour can be compared to climbing a thousand-foot flight of stairs 18 times. A wintertime example would be everyone's

favorite — shoveling snow from a driveway 10 feet wide and two miles long!

However, chances are that few people make such comparisons when flipping on a light or running a vacuum cleaner or popping dinner into a microwave oven. The whole concept of measurement becomes insignificant when we realize that we are actually purchasing convenience and a better quality of life in a kilowatt-hour that costs us only pennies.

Nothing beats DIRECTV™ for family entertainment.



The Disney Channel
© DISNEY



Looking for television programs the whole family can watch? Look no further. DIRECTV brings you the very best in family viewing...with as many as 150 channels to choose from. If you want programming that satisfies every member of the family, nothing compares to DIRECTV.

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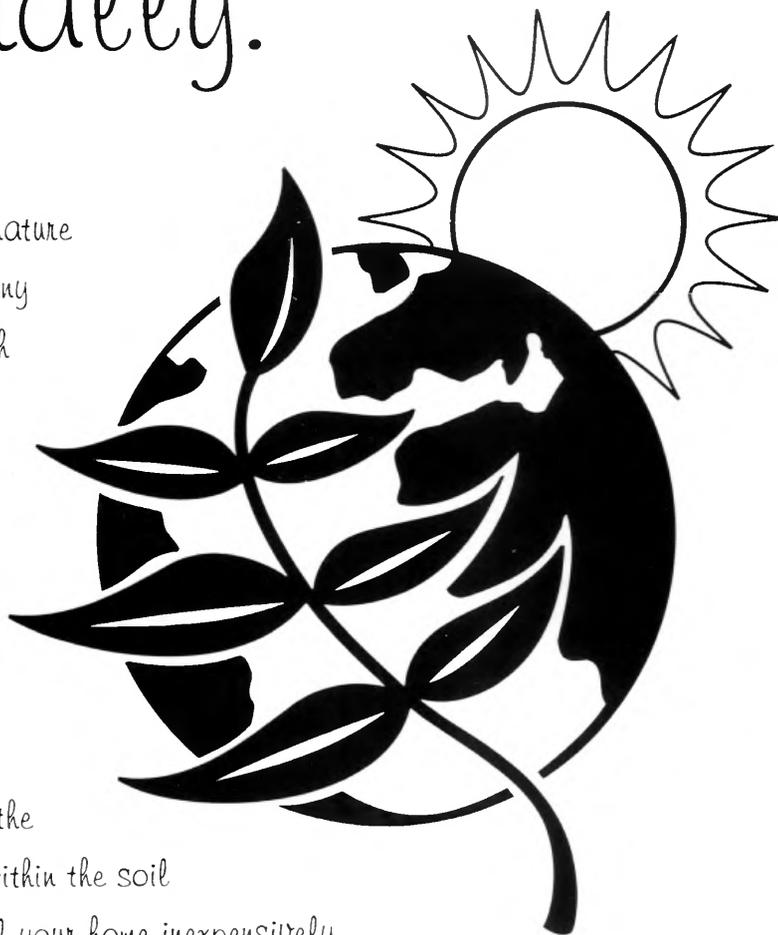
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Heat and cool your home, naturally.

The energy of nature shows itself in many ways...the strength of a seedling pushing through the soil, waves surging against the shore. The Earth also absorbs and stores heat energy from the sun. This energy within the soil can heat and cool your home inexpensively, cleanly and efficiently through the Geothermal Heating and Cooling System. In the winter, warmth naturally stored within the soil is drawn into your home. In the summer, the action is reversed to cool the house. The system produces four times more energy than it uses, which should leave you good-natured when the electric bill comes.



Electric Cooperatives of Illinois

An Affirmative Action Equal Opportunity Employer

Spring is time to think geothermal

It has been said—roughly—that in the spring, a young person's fancy turns lightly to other young persons. For those who are older, and who have a house to keep up, a family to provide for and bills to pay, spring tends to bring gratitude.

Not only are we thrilled for the end of winter, but we're grateful that the old furnace has squeaked through another winter without giving up the ghost.

With the heating season on the way out and the cooling season a month or so away, now might be a good time to give some thought to having a geothermal heating and cooling system installed in your home. If you're getting ready to build, you certainly ought to look into geothermal.

A geothermal system uses earth-stored energy in partnership with safe, clean electricity, to offer a hard-to-beat way to heat and cool your home.

The heart of the geothermal system is essentially a heat pump with a difference: but what a difference! The average air-to-air heat pump is essentially a reversible system that removes heat from your home in the summer and expels it to the outside air. It does the opposite in the winter, warming outside air and moving it into your home. You decide what it does simply by flicking a switch on your indoor thermostat.

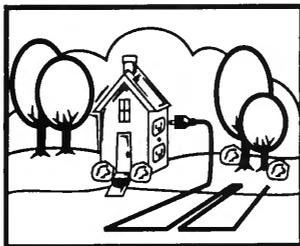
If the air-to-air heat pump has a disadvantage, it's that it starts losing its efficiency at about 10 degrees F., so you have to rely on another heat source to make up the difference.

A geothermal system doesn't have that problem. It draws its heat or coolness from a liquid-filled grid of plastic piping buried 5-6' underground. Once you get about 5 feet below the surface of the earth, the temperature in Illinois is a fairly consistent 55 degrees F., the year around.

Instead of having to cool 90-degree air in the summer, the unit is dealing with 55-degree air, and it does that very efficiently. When you need heat, the geothermal system is, again, working with a 55-degree medium. That's much better than the subzero weather air-to-air units have to cope with. All in all, about 70 percent of the "fuel" your unit needs comes from the solar energy absorbed by the earth and stored there.

Not surprisingly, the technology for the geothermal system, also known as a "closed-loop earth-coupled groundwater heat pump system," came from northern Europe. It is only natural that the system would develop in that area, with its harsh climate and high fuel costs.

The idea dates back to the 1940s, but offered no advantage to Americans in a time when the cost of heating and cooling a home was almost insignificant. The energy crunch of the early 1970s changed all that, and Americans started getting serious about economical comfort conditioning.



There was another factor, too. The piping and technology hadn't developed to the point that Americans

would feel comfortable with them, and it wasn't until the 1980s that they came together. Early experiments with polyvinyl chloride (PVC) piping proved unsatisfactory, and until better piping could be developed, the system had no real future. Today's piping is expected to last 25-75 years in virtually any soil type. Present-day piping has better heat conducting properties than earlier materials had.

Most closed-loop systems are trenched horizontally in the yard around the home, but the stored solar energy can also come from well water or a pond, if it's large enough. If you don't have room for a horizontal loop, you can have a well drilled or use an existing one. If you need to have your yard trenched, it's usually not a big problem. The trenches are usually about 6 inches wide, and a simple reseeding will take care of the disturbed lawn. The pipes have no adverse affect on plants above them.

A big plus is that the heart of the unit is installed inside the house, in a garage, storage closet or crawl space, where it's protected from the elements. That prolongs the life of the unit, which is quiet enough that it won't be a bother.

Geothermal systems can save you even more money by providing hot water for your home. Some types of systems can save you up to 50 percent on your annual water heating bill by preheating tank water. These units are standard equipment on some systems and optional on others. Be sure to look into the possibility of having hot water, too.

While geothermal units seem to be too good to be true, they do have one disadvantage: They're expensive to install because of the trenching or well-drilling needed for the loop.

Don't let that deter you. They will save you so much money on your heating, cooling and water-heating costs that they'll pay for themselves much sooner than any other kind of system that's likely to be available to rural electric consumers. Ask the people at your electric cooperative for more information. You'll be glad you did!

Watts New

McDonough Power Cooperative

Macomb, Illinois 61455

Across the Manager's Desk



By Dickson L. Dunsworth

The board of directors has again announced that McDonough Power Cooperative will be sponsoring the Youth to Washington D.C. and Youth to Springfield programs this spring. McDonough Power, as well as McDonough Telephone Cooperative, is sponsoring this program to introduce students to government and the political process.

Two students from each high school in the respective service areas will receive an all-expense-

paid bus trip to Springfield on Wednesday, May 1. During the day, the students and their counterparts from other area high schools will meet their elected senators and representatives at the capitol and learn firsthand about the workings of state government.

From the group of high school students attending Youth Day, each cooperative will choose two students to attend the Washington tour.

The trip will be a week-long, with all expenses paid, and is set for June 14-21. During the week in the nation's capital, the Illinois students will meet with Senators Carol Moseley-Braun and Paul Simon and Representative Lane Evans. They will also tour the many historic and government sites of Washington, D.C. They hope to meet with President Clinton and/or a member of his staff.

McDonough Power is very pleased to be able to participate in this program for the area youth and hopes the experience for the students will be a rewarding one.

Duck for safety's sake!

Now that the weather's nicer, you'll be out and about, fixing up your house or tending to your farm. Here's some smart advice. Some of your projects may put you on the roof, others may have you moving tall poles or machinery.

Sure, you know the power lines are there, but they may be closer than you think. Don't forget to duck, whether you're in a tree cutting out dead limbs or on a ladder scraping old paint from your house.

In the midst of these busy weekend chores, remember — safety is the top priority. When you're

climbing that tree, walking on that roof and moving that ladder, DUCK! Make sure you and your work tools clear any overhead electric power lines.

Electricity is a safe and reliable co-worker. Just use good sense and caution. When moving machinery around your property, look up and live. A few moments of care can add up to a longer life.

At home or on the farm, when you're working under electric lines . . . duck! Do your jobs safely. . .

Power theft is dangerous

Theft of energy by meter tampering is dangerous and illegal, posing fire and safety hazards that could seriously injure or kill those stealing the power as well as their families or neighbors. In addition to being unsafe, stealing energy is also an offense against all honest, paying customers. Other customers pay higher energy bills for the acts of a dishonest few.

Altering a meter is extremely dangerous.

Interfering with the flow of electricity can cause a person to be injured or electrocuted. The few dollars "saved" are not worth the risks.

If you know of any incident of energy theft, it is in your best interest to report this violation of the law to McDonough Power Cooperative. You'll be protecting yourself and others from a potentially dangerous situation.

PSG Defender Plus

whole-home power protection

Every day, destructive electrical spikes and surges — caused by lightning or industrial and construction accidents involving utility poles — pass through the electrical lines and into your home. Once inside, these high-voltage spikes can cause damage to electronics found in many household products like entertainment centers, cordless telephones, microwave ovens, and more... anything plugged into an electrical outlet is susceptible to damage!

Stopping high-voltage spikes

The Home Guard Defender Plus, designed in cooperation with utility personnel for use by utility members, offers a comprehensive two-part system of power protection for your home appliances and electronic devices.

First, the Home Guard Defender Plus protection begins outside the home with a service entrance unit installed by utility personnel. This

primary device has been specifically engineered to prevent catastrophic high-voltage spikes from entering your home, even while you're away!

Second, for your more sensitive electronic equipment, special plug-in protectors are included for use on PC's, entertainment centers, garage door openers, microwave ovens, cordless telephones and more.

Warranty

The package warranty is simple! The service entrance unit carries a full 10-year product replacement warranty. All plug-in products carry a lifetime product replacement warranty and are accompanied by a down-line repair/replacement warranty (ask for details) of all properly connected equipment due to failure of the suppressor.

**For more information, contact
McDonough Power Cooperative
at 309-833-2101.**

Price reduced
to \$499
Plus a \$50 rebate
Call today!
(Rebate expires 4/13/96)

Nothing beats DIRECTV™ for family entertainment.



The Disney Channel
© DISNEY



Looking for television programs the whole family can watch? Look no further. DIRECTV brings you the very best in family viewing...with as many as 150 channels to choose from. If you want programming that satisfies every member of the family, nothing compares to DIRECTV.

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g^{*}eothermal

It's closer than you realize.

Not too far away from where you live, maybe just down the street or around the corner, somebody is saving money and you're not. They are taking advantage of something that you could take advantage of, too. If you have a front yard or back yard, you can lower the cost of heating and cooling your home. You can also get free or very inexpensive hot water. The Geothermal Heating and Cooling System uses the constant warmth within the soil to move heat in or out of your home, depending on the season. Somebody near you has one, and they are enjoying the comfort, safety and savings. Fortunately, there is somebody else near you who can help you bring all of geothermal's benefits to YOUR home. You'll find their name just down the road.



Electric Cooperatives of Illinois

Getting the job done . . . TOGETHER

'Invisible' light is useful stuff

An English astronomer made an interesting observation in the early 19th century, and we benefit from his perceptiveness today. Sir William Herschel noted the difference between heat and light, using a prism to split sunlight into spectral bands, much as a suncatcher will project "rainbows" on the walls during a sunny day.

As Herschel moved a thermometer through the bands, he saw that the temperature increased as he moved the thermometer from the blue end of the spectrum to the red. Surprisingly, the mercury continued to climb after the thermometer had passed through the red—the last of the visible bands. The higher temperature invisible light came to be known as infrared.

For a long time, there was little use for infrared, but times have changed. Now, rural English towns use infrared to track burglars, and firefighters in the West use infrared detectors to locate smoldering "hot spots" that can't be detected by the naked eye. During Operation Desert Storm, pilots used infrared to locate targets during night missions and in heavy smoke. Astronomers hope to use infrared technology to peek inside distant stars.

The infrared video camera, a fairly recent gadget, is what is being used in an effort to make all these things come to pass. The IR camera takes advantage of the fact that a warm object gives off more radiation than a cool one, and the camera "sorts out" those differences, providing a recognizable image.

Since the human eye responds only to visible light, it may miss the glow of hot ashes in the middle of what looks like a dead fire. It also can't see in the dark. An infrared camera can do both.

Scientists predict that there will be many uses for the emerging technology, including assisting commercial aircraft during landings at night and in foul weather, and night surveillance.

Older infrared technologies have been used for years in the construction and petrochemical industries. They have been used to help detect leaks and stress patterns, control oil pollution and conduct land surveys and medical analyses. Those looking for problems in electrical lines use them to find faults in connections, which show up as darker areas, since they're hotter than their surroundings.

Some energy-efficiency experts use them to de-

tect heat loss from homes, enabling homeowners to determine how better to weatherstrip and insulate, to add comfort and save money on their energy bills.

Such cameras have been either expensive, or they were limited in what they could do. Now, new platinum-silicide cameras should offer a low-cost alternative. Scientists have used them to peer through the interstellar dust and look into distant regions of the universe, and NASA has lobbied long and hard for an infrared space telescope, which astronomers believe will be of fundamental importance for almost all aspects of astronomy.

Closer to home, though, the towns of Halmore, Purton and Hinton in Rural England have installed such cameras on power poles at the edges of their towns, to obtain a record of those who enter and leave. The idea is to snag the occasional urban thief who passes through; as in other places, such problems are on the increase.

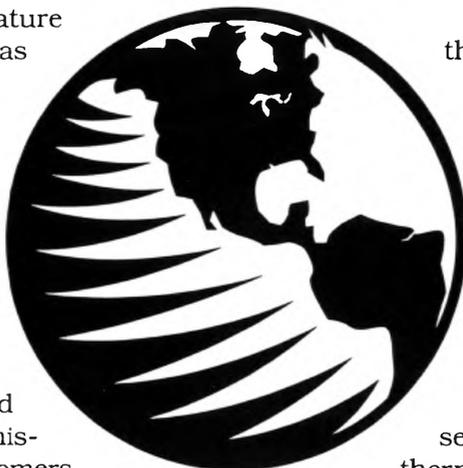
An infrared image is essentially a composite picture of the thermal images given off by a scene or person, and represents the internal temperature. While faces will look like faces, they will look very different from those viewed by light in the normal spectrum. Warmer parts, such as eye sockets, will register dark. Cooler parts, such as ears and the nose, will be lighter. Eye and hair coloring are missing.

While such differences cause problems, police viewing the video tapes have a fairly respectable record of success in recognizing perpetrators.

But one problem is that many objects emit similar amounts of infrared "light," giving off little in the way of visual contrast, even through the best of cameras now in existence. A major goal for infrared researchers is to find a way to boost the difference.

But for now, while astronomers dream of a telescope that will enable them to unlock the mysteries of the universe and police view strange images on TV screens and firefighters look for hot spots, the electric industry uses them for practical purposes.

While sniffing out power line flaws and energy leaks is necessary and even important, there's nothing wrong with dreaming of finding out more about the universe around us. Perhaps someday soon such cameras will enable us to do just that!



Watts New

McDonough Power Cooperative

Macomb, Illinois 61455

Across the Manager's Desk



By Dickson L. Dunsworth

Is Your Home Wiring Safe?

May is Electrical Safety Month, and we invite you to mark your calendar for this special observance.

Electricity has become such a part of our lives that people take it for granted.

The wiring in your home requires maintenance and regular inspection. Wiring wears out just like anything else.

Each time any new electrical load is added to your home, you should review the part of your electrical system which will handle the new load.

If your home's electric wiring hasn't been professionally inspected within the past several years, contact a qualified electrician. Even if you decide not to do that, there are some things you can look for yourself.

Start with a tour of your home to check out some of the basics for using electricity as safely as possible.

☛ Plug in portable appliances only when you intend to use them. Disconnect them when not in use.

☛ Make sure there's proper ventilation around TVs and VCRs; restricted air flow can cause them to overheat.

☛ Use extension cords and appliances that have a seal of approval from a major testing laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL).

☛ I check electrical cords for frays and nicks.

☛ I make sure plugs and prongs aren't loose or worn.

☛ I don't place cords where they could be tripped over or receive excessive wear (like under rugs).

☛ I never use an electric tool or appliance if my hands or feet are wet or if I'm standing in water or on damp ground.

☛ I know the location of my fuse box or circuit breaker panel.

☛ I equip my home with an approved fire extinguisher for electrical fires and check it periodically.

☛ I never attempt to do home wiring improvements myself.

☛ I insert specially designed plastic caps in low wall outlets when not in use to protect small children.

☛ I teach my children these safety rules of in-home electrical safety.

☛ I look for Underwriter's Laboratory label on every appliance I buy.

☛ I don't risk overloading wall outlets with adapters.

☛ I turn off and repair any appliance that sputters, stalls, or gives the slightest shock.

There's much more you can do, of course, and we'll be happy to advise you. You can use this checklist every day of every month for your safety.

Nothing beats DIRECTV™ for family entertainment.



Looking for television programs the whole family can watch? Look no further. DIRECTV brings you the very best in family viewing...with as many as 150 channels to choose from. If you want programming that satisfies every member of the family, nothing compares to DIRECTV.

The choice is clear. **DIRECTV.**



Contact McDonough Power Cooperative at 309-833-2101 for more information.



DIRECTV® and **DSS®** are registered trademarks of **DIRECTV, Inc.** a unit of Hughes Electronic Corporation. Equipment and programming sold separately. NRTC 1995.

Tornado season is here!

Tornado safety tips

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

- ☛ Plan ahead of time where to take shelter.
- ☛ If you must be in the field, stay within 10 minutes of your shelter.
- ☛ When you learn that a tornado is headed your way, move to shelter. The safest place is an underground shelter. Because of the general direction a tornado takes, the southwest corner is

the safest.

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

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

How Much?

The average cost of operating electric gadgets has remained, remarkably low. Because electric gifts are economical, you know they will be well received. For just a few pennies, you can:

Watch a movie at home-TV & VCR for 3 hours	7 cents
Blow dry your hair with a hairdryer for 10 minutes	2 cents
Brew morning coffee	3 cents
Drip coffee maker, brew 15 minutes, keep warm one hour	
Make dinner in the microwave oven, 20 minutes	4 cents
Surf the Internet; send an e-mail letter to a friend	1 cent

Use your head when you dry your hair.

If you've bought a hair dryer lately, you probably noticed a warning tag attached to the power cord. There's a good reason for the warning tag. You could be injured if your hair dryer is used improperly around water. It happens every year to hundreds of Americans. and unfortunately, most people use their hair dryer in the bathroom near

showers and bathtubs. So, before you plug in your hair dryer next time, read the warning tag. Never use it near water. Never stand on a wet floor while drying your hair, and never leave your hair dryer where a young child can reach it. Your electric co-op wants you to have great-looking hair. But please use your head when you use your dryer.

Office Closing

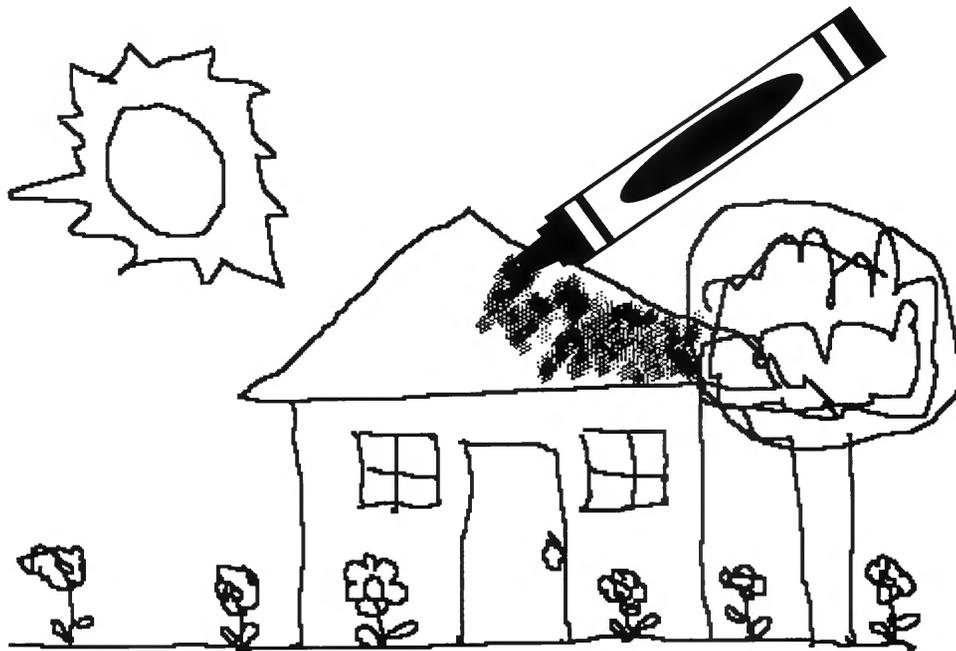
**McDonough Power Cooperative will
be closed, May 27, 1996 to observe Memorial Day.
The office will reopen Tuesday May 28, 1996 at 8:00 a.m.**

DIRECTORS

Bill Pollock, President • Howard Butler, Vice President • Jerry Riggins, Secretary • Stan Prox, Treasurer
Mark Anderson • Michael Cox • Thomas Curtis • Steve Lynn • Kenneth Moore • John D. McMillan, Attorney

All Co-op Electric Outages 837-1400

A different color



You may think of your *electric cooperative* in just one way . . . your power provider. If you haven't checked lately, you may find that it is *more than that now*. We can help you find a *better electric rate* for your life style, or *teach electrical safety* to your child. We may improve your heating and cooling system, if you ask. We may help you *communicate better*, and we work with groups to help bring in *businesses and jobs*.

Look into your power provider. It may be a *co-op of a different color now*.



Electric Cooperatives of Illinois

An Affirmative Action Equal Opportunity Employer

Little energy-saving steps add up

There are several steps you can take to save on your electricity bill around your home. Many steps are simple and don't cost much, such as caulking, weatherstripping, and replacing some incandescent light bulbs with fluorescents.

There are some that don't cost anything. Most involve a simple change of habits, a little attention to detail, or spending very little money.

You can save on your overall bill by being careful when you run your appliances. Most Illinois cooperatives are "summer peaking." Their electricity costs more during the hottest times of the day, during the hottest days of the year, than it costs at other times.

With that in mind, you'll know that you shouldn't use heavy appliances such as dishwashers, clothes washers and dryers, and electric ovens in the afternoon hours during hot spells. Try to use such equipment early in the morning or late at night. This will save your co-op money and save you money too.

You can enjoy direct savings on your bills by using appliances wisely. For example, many people keep their refrigerators colder than necessary. The recommended temperatures for the fresh food compartment is 36-38 degrees F., while freezer temperature should be about 5 degrees. If you have a separate freezer for long-term food storage, you should keep it at 0-5 degrees F. (Check with thermometer).

If you have manual-defrost refrigerators or freezers, you need to keep after the frost. As frost builds up, it boosts the amount of energy needed to keep your food cold. A quarter of an inch of frost in your freezer is too much.

Be sure your refrigerator door gaskets are airtight. You can check them by closing them gently on a piece of paper and trying to pull it out. If it slides out easily, you need a new seal, or your latch may need adjustment.

There are a few things you can do in the laundry to save energy by using your automatic washer and dryer less often and more efficiently. Wash full loads rather than "just a few things," and if you do wash half a load, set your washer's control for a partial load, if it enables you to.

And you can wash most clothes in warm water, with a cold rinse. Use hot water only when necessary, using only as much detergent as you need. Follow the directions on the box and avoid

the urge to add "just a little more." Oversudsing makes your machine work harder and takes more energy.

You can save by using a prewash or soak cycle to wash really dirty clothes. You may avoid having to wash them twice.

Fill clothes dryers, but don't overfill. Keep the lint screen clean, removing lint after each load. A plugged filter will make the dryer work harder, and is also a fire hazard.

Dry consecutive loads. Start-and-stop drying uses more energy because a lot is used to heat the dryer up to working temperature each time you begin.

Separate drying loads into heavy and light-weight items. The lighter ones take less drying time, and the dryer doesn't have to be on as long. Leave small, light items for last: you may be able to dry them after you turn off the heat, using heat retained by the machine from earlier loads.

If your dryer has an automatic dry cycle, use it. It'll stop the dryer as soon as your clothes are ready, without running any more than necessary. And you can save energy twice, if the weather permits, by using a solar-powered clothes dryer, formerly known as a clothesline. Not only will it save you the energy needed to dry the clothes, but it won't add heat to your home, either. Some believe line-dried clothes smell fresher, too.

You can save some energy during ironing by hanging clothes in the bathroom while you're bathing or showering. The steam often eases the wrinkles out for you. It's worth a try.

You can save energy in the bathroom by taking showers rather than baths, but you'll need to be careful. It's easy to enjoy a shower enough that you forget yourself and spend enough time under the spray to use more hot water than you'd use in a regular bath.

It takes about 30 gallons to fill the average tub, and a shower with a flow of three gallons a minute uses only 15 gallons in 15 minutes. If you use half cold and half hot water for bathing, you would save about five gallons of hot water every time you substitute a shower for a bath.

If you're interested in saving money on your electricity bill, you can do it if you're careful. While each of the tips mentioned are little things, they'll add up. Call your cooperative's energy advisor today for more tips on saving money and energy.

Watts New

McDonough Power Cooperative

Macomb, Illinois 61455

Across the Manager's Desk



By Dickson L. Dunsworth

Even though you're on vacation... your appliances continue to work.

Even though you may be gone for several days or even weeks, your home probably is still using energy. In fact, you may wonder why your bill isn't considerably lower because you were away. Here are some of the possible reasons:

Usage period

The days you were away on vacation may have

occurred during two billing periods, so any decrease in energy usage would be split between two bills.

Weather

During the hot summer months, you may have made greater use of your air conditioner both before and after vacation.

Billing period

Always look carefully at your bill to see exactly what days the billing period included.

Major appliances

Your water heater operates while you are away. Your refrigerator and freezer still run. These appliances are relatively large energy users.

Before you leave, plan to take steps that will reduce your home's energy consumption while you enjoy your vacation.

- * Turn off (or down) the thermostat on your water heater.

- * Turn off your air conditioner or set the thermostat at a higher temperature.

- * Keep indoor and outdoor lighting to a level of security which you consider adequate.

- * Use timers to turn lights on and off; save money and increase security.



What's a guy to do?

What can you do about a guy wire? You have to mow around it or plow around it. It's always in your way but what good is it?

Guying cables support the structures of the power lines that bring electricity to your home or business. Without guys to hold the weight and strain of the conductor, the lines would sag and the poles would lean. The power distribution system would break down or collapse under adverse weather conditions and would require more frequent and costly repairs.

The placement of each anchor and guy is calculated for your safety. The guys are set in pre-

cisely the correct positions to hold the strain of the power line.

You can help guy wires on your property do their job by:

- * Not hitting or scraping the cable or anchor with mowers, plows or other equipment.

- * Not allowing children to play on the cable or remove the bolts.

- * Not storing straw, hay, compost or other moisture-attracting materials near the anchor.

- * Not stacking or moving sharp-edged scrap metal, sheet metal or pipe around the cable.

Nominating Committee will meet June 27, 1996.

Members of the 1996 nominating committee have been appointed by the McDonough Power Cooperative Board of Directors. The committee will meet at the Macomb Dining Co., June 27, 1996 at 7 p.m. to nominate candidates for election to the board of directors at the 1996 annual meeting of members to be held August 19, 1996 at the Fellheimer Auditorium in Macomb.

District 1 (Composed of the West Half of Scotland Township and East Half of Chalmers Township in McDonough County): Dennis Iversen, 1318 Debbie Lane, Macomb, IL 61455.

District 2 (Composed of all Lamoine, Bethel and Industry Townships in McDonough County and parts of Brooklyn, Littleton and Oakland Townships in Schuyler County): David Morrow, 5195 E. 1200th St., Macomb, IL 61455.

District 3 (Composed of all Hire, Tennessee, Colchester and the West half of Chalmers Townships in McDonough County and parts of Fountain Green and Hancock Townships in Hancock County): Calvin Moore, 13350 E. 250th St., Colchester, IL 62326.

District 4 (Composed of all of Blandinsville, Sciota and Emmett Townships in McDonough County): Gene Curtis, 14060 E. 850th St., Macomb, IL 61455; and Dan McMillan, 20575 E. 1000th St., Sciota, IL 61475.

District 5 (Composed of the East Half of Scotland and all of New Salem, Eldorado and Mound Townships in McDonough County and part of Harris Farmers and Vermont Townships in Fulton County): Hodgedon Herndon, 20360 950th Rd., Adair, IL 61411.

District 6 (Composed of all of Macomb, Walnut Grove, Bushnell and Prairie City Townships in McDonough County and part of Lee in Fulton County): Jeffrey Hatch, 13405 IL HWY 9, Good Hope, IL 61438 and Jeff Moore, 13755 IL HWY 9, Good Hope, IL 61438.

District 7 (Composed of all of Raritan, Point Pleasant, Swan Creek, Greenbush and Media Townships in McDonough County): Brian Monroe, R.R. #1, Roseville, IL 61473.

District 8 (Composed of all of Biggsville, Tompkins, Ellison, Roseville, Lenox, Monmouth and Spring Grove Township in Warren County): Tim Phelps, 1843 100th St., Monmouth, IL 61462.

District 9 (Composed of Kelly, Coldbrook, Floyd and Berwick Townships in Warren County and Parts of

Galesburg, Cedar and Indian Point Townships in Knox County): Walter Hawkins, 2050 155th St., Cameron, IL 61423 and Lauren Still, 1476 190th Av., Cameron, IL 61423.

The bylaws of the Cooperative provide that nominations to the Board of Directors may be made by: (1) The Nominating Committee, (2), A petition signed by 15 or more active members, the petition must be received at the principal office of the Cooperative at least 30 days before the annual meeting or (3) nominations can be made from the floor at the annual meeting.

The terms of Directors from Districts 4, 6, and 9 expire this year. Directors presently serving on your board of Directors are: District 1, Michael Cox; District 2, Jerry Riggins; District 3, William Pollock; District 4, Stan Prox; District 5, Steven L. Lynn; District 6, Kenneth Moore; District 7, Mark Anderson; District 8, Howard Butler, and District 9, Thomas Curtis. Section 5. Nominations. It shall be the duty of the Board to appoint, not less than forty days nor more than one hundred twenty days before the date of a meeting of the members at which board members are to be elected, a committee on nominations consisting of two members from each district in which a director is to be elected and one member from each of the other districts served by the cooperative. No member of the board may serve on such committee. The committee shall prepare and post at the principal office of the cooperative, at least thirty days before the meeting, a list of nominations for directors, which shall include at least one or more candidates for each board position to be filled by the election. The secretary shall be responsible for mailing with the notice of the meeting or separately, but at least seven days before the date of the meeting, a statement of the number of board members to be elected and the names and addresses of the candidates nominated by the committee on nominations. Any fifteen or more members acting together may make other nominations by petition and the secretary shall post such nominations at the same place where the list of nominations made by the committee is posted. Nominations made by petition, in order to be valid, must be received at the principal office of the cooperative at least thirty days before the meeting. Any nomination by petition which meets the requirements of the bylaws, shall be set forth in the annual meeting notice as nominations made by petition and any such nominations shall appear on the official ballot. Nothing contained herein shall, however, prevent additional nominations to be made from the floor at the meeting of members.

.....
Getting the job done

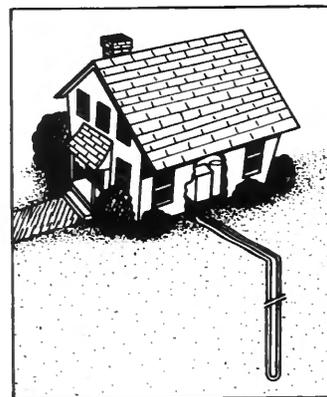
TOGETHER

Electric Cooperatives of Illinois

Not far from the Mississippi River in western Illinois, there's a new subdivi-

sion in which all of the houses are heated and cooled by geothermal systems. The geothermal system's underground liquid-filled loops carry energy from within the soil, a method four times more efficient than fossil-fuel systems. The local electric cooperative played a big role in getting this low-cost heating and cooling system installed throughout the subdivision. All around Illinois, electric cooperatives are encouraging their members to install a geothermal system because it is the leader in safety, comfort and economy.

The geothermal system improves the quality of life for members, something that electric cooperatives have been doing for more than five decades. They are working in all kinds of ways to make life better in rural areas. It's a job that's far from over, and it takes people working together to accomplish it. *There's a word for this. Cooperation.*



Electric Cooperatives of Illinois

Good for ALL Illinois

Odd weather may bring danger, outages, spikes

The weather this year has been unusual, to say the least. We've had flooding, tornadoes, hail, and cold and warm spells far in excess of those we normally have had in the past, and we've had an abundance of rain and lightning and thunderstorms, too.

Whatever the case, it is obvious that last fall, this past winter, this spring and whatever the summer will bring involves weather patterns we aren't accustomed to.

We are now in the middle of the tornado season, with all the hazards that it brings, so a few tornado pointers are in order.

Seek shelter — Seek inside shelter if possible. If you're in the open, move away from a tornado's path at a right angle. If there's no time to escape, lie flat in the nearest depression.

In office buildings — The basement or an interior hallway on a lower floor is safest. Upper stories are unsafe. If there's no time to go downstairs, find a closet or small room with stout walls, or an inside hallway. If you can't do better, lie down under a piece of heavy furniture.

In homes with basements — Seek refuge near the basement wall in the most sheltered place.

In homes without basements — Take cover in the smallest room with stout walls, or under heavy furniture, a tipped-over upholstered couch or chair in the center of the house. The first floor is safer than upper floors.

Mobile homes — Mobile homes are especially vulnerable to overturning and destruction during high winds, and should be abandoned in favor of a preselected shelter, or even a ditch in the open. You can minimize the damage of future tornado damage by securing the trailer with cable anchored in concrete footing.

In large buildings — These buildings, with their wide, free-span roofs, should have preselected, marked shelter areas in their basements, smaller rooms, or nearby. Seek shelter there, if possible.

Lightning is dangerous to be out in, and it's bad for electrical appliances and electronic devices. There is always a danger that lightning may hit a line and run through it into a service entrance, perhaps damaging delicate electronics or motors.

There are "surge protection" devices to guard against that possibility, and you may be wise to



look into the possibility of buying one. Several electric cooperatives in Illinois sell and install them.

Even with whole-house protection, you're still wise to use separate outlet protectors for especially sensitive equipment, such as computers. Don't forget to protect incoming phone lines, too.

Our unusual weather may bring other safety problems we will have to deal with thoughtfully, too. With tornadoes, high winds, soggy ground and other elements in the mix, there may be more downed power lines around than there have been in the past. Remember: Downed lines are dangerous! If you see one, don't try to do anything with it. Call your local electric cooperative. They have specially trained crews to deal with such things.

And we may be faced with longer-than-average power outages. High winds and tornadoes often tangle trees and limbs in lines, resulting in a cleanup nightmare. Repair entails a lot of painstaking work, and that sometimes means long-term outages. With the weather the way it's been lately, you might be wise to be prepared for a spell without electricity. Fortunately, most summer outages aren't life-threatening, like winter outages might be without a running furnace.

Still, you need to be prepared for at least some inconvenience. You can make the next outage more bearable if you keep the following on hand and easy to get to:

- Something to provide light—flashlights and extra batteries, lanterns or candles.
- Extra fuel for lanterns, or batteries for electric lamps
- Canned meats and juices, powdered milk, cereals
- Jugs of water
- Battery-powered radio
- Windup alarm clock

It's also a good idea to keep your co-op's telephone number handy, as well as your map location number.

If you begin to worry about your frozen foods, you might look for a source of dry ice. They're often listed in the Yellow Pages under "Ice."

If you take a few simple precautions, you may be able to spare yourself some grief during the strange weather we've been having.

Watts New

McDonough Power Cooperative

Macomb, Illinois 61455

Across the Manager's Desk



By Dickson L. Dunsworth

Guard against lightning damage

There are some 2,000 thunderstorms in progress over the Earth at any given moment. And although we need the rain that thunderstorms bring, the lightning that often comes with them can be very dangerous.

At least 100 Americans are killed each year by lightning. That's more than the death toll caused by tornadoes, hurricanes or floods. Lightning strikes the earth 100 times each second. Lightning is very fast, half the speed of light, and very hot, five times the temperature of the surface of the sun.

When a storm does start:

- Limit the use of electrical appliances.
- Don't use the telephone unless absolutely necessary.
- Get out of the water and off the golf course and ball fields. Golf shoe spikes provide a perfect ground.
- Stop work on tractors, especially when pulling metal equipment.
- Look for the nearest shelter; avoid high ob-

jects, especially isolated trees.

· Unplug expensive electrical equipment such as computers.

Lightning protection

Lightning is spectacular and beautiful, but devastating, especially to electric utilities. Homes and forests also fall victim to the devastation caused by lightning.

To protect substations, utilities erect lightning masts, not unlike lightning rods on barns and houses. Lightning arrestors are also installed on transformers and throughout the electric system. A lightning arrestor acts as an insulator at normal voltage. But when high voltage caused by lightning hits, it literally explodes, causing a short circuit and outage, but protecting the line and equipment from damage that would take longer to repair.

Lightning damages or destroys 30,000 houses per year and starts half of all fires in our national forests. Because lightning is such a major cause of outages and a threat to the lives of linemen, electric utilities across the country are doing more to learn about lightning and how to control its damage.

After a storm, members say their co-op's "power surges" destroyed their refrigerator or damaged a computer, TV or microwave oven. In most cases, the damage was caused all at once or over time by lightning.

The problem is more noticeable now because modern electronic equipment is more sensitive to

Continued on page 12c...

Nothing beats DIRECTV™ for family entertainment.

The DISNEY Channel



Looking for television programs the whole family can watch? Look no further. DIRECTV brings you the very best in family viewing...with as many as 150 channels to choose from. If you want programming that satisfies every member of the family, nothing compares to DIRECTV.

The choice is clear. DIRECTV.



Contact McDonough Power Cooperative at 309-833-2101 for more information.
DIRECTV® and DSS® are registered trademarks of DIRECTV, Inc. a unit of Hughes Electronic Corporation.
Equipment and programming sold separately. NRTC 1995.

DIRECTORS

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All Co-op Electric Outages 837-1400

Continued from page 12b...

power disturbances.

You can do a lot to prevent these problems. First, make sure your wiring is up-to-date. Many older homes simply were not wired to handle today's electrical needs. Make sure your wiring system is well grounded.

Next, you can buy surge protector outlet strips for your expensive equipment. For computers we recommend installing a dedicated circuit just for the computer to isolate it from other appliances

or equipment. If you have questions about your home's wiring contact a licensed electrician. Have him check the circuit box and grounding system.

We highly recommend the meter base surge suppressor. They really work! It will provide protection from lightning surges coming from the cooperative side of the meter. For more information, contact McDonough Power Cooperative at 309-833-2101. We'll be glad to talk to you about our Home Guard Defender Plus.

22

Automated electric bill payment

For the convenience of McDonough Power members, you can now pay your monthly bill by electronic funds transfer. The funds to pay your bill can be transferred from your checking or savings account. Each month you still receive a bill, but the words "Bank Draft Do Not Pay" are printed on it. You can telephone or mail your meter reading to the Cooperative, which will still be needed each month. On about the 10th of each month, funds to pay your current bill will be transferred from your designated account and deposited in

the cooperative account. If you disagree with the bill you receive on the 5th, just contact the cooperative prior to the 10th of that month and any necessary adjustments can be made. If you do not have sufficient funds in your account, you may incur fees from your bank and McDonough Power Cooperative, the same as writing a check with insufficient funds.

Call the McDonough Power Cooperative office at 309-833-2101 to make arrangements for automatic bill payment.

1995 Capital credit allocation

The bylaws of the Cooperative state that the Cooperative pay capital credits to each member in excess needed to establish general reserves.

Capital credit refunds have been paid to all members through 1975.

The capital credit allocation factor for the year 1995 is 0.452 percent. This percentage factor is multiplied times the amount of revenue you paid the cooperative for electricity during the year 1995. This amount is assignable on the books of the cooperative for the year. If you wish to know what amount is assigned to your account, please contact the cooperative.

Remember "Peak 90"

Most businesses want you to buy more of what they sell, that's not necessarily true of your electric coop. Sure, we want you to have all the electricity you need. But we also want you to get a lot of value for your power dollar. Wise use is one way to do that.

Cooperatives were created to provide service to members, not profits to stockholders. That's why McDonough Power is encouraging you to remember "Peak 90" June 15-Sept. 15, 1996.

We are requesting MPC consumers to use major appliances or equipment before 12:00 noon or after 8:00 p.m., June 15-Sept. 15, 1996. This helps control our peak demand and allows us to pass that savings on to you.

**Attend your
1996 annual meeting
McDonough Power
Cooperative's Annual Meeting
will be August 19 at
Fellheimer Auditorium in
Macomb Jr./Sr. High School.
It's a vital part of your role
as a McDonough Power
Cooperative member
to attend.**

Could You Pay Your Medical Bills If An Unexpected Illness or Injury Occurs?

National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) sponsors the RE Member Group Major Medical Plan available exclusively to rural electric consumers. The plan provides affordable, comprehensive coverage with up to \$1 million in lifetime benefits. • Available to spouses under age 65, and dependent children to age 19, (25 if a full-time student) • Provides coverage for semi-private hospital room and board, doctors' diagnosis, treatment and surgery, physiotherapy, prescription drugs and medicines. • Up to 210 consecutive hospice services, up to 50 days in a convalescent home, anesthetics, home health care and much more.

The RE Member Group Major Medical Plan was designed exclusively for Rural Electric Consumers with group rates everyone can afford. With a choice of two copayment options, plus a range of deductibles, it's easy to tailor the plan to fit you or your family's budget. This is an excellent opportunity for you to apply for affordable, comprehensive major medical coverage.



Call right now for your free no-obligation information kit.
1-800-543-9213, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday - Friday, Central Time.



Tree-mendous advice

Trees mix well with kids and cookouts and summer afternoons.

They DON'T mix with power lines.  Trees can interfere with electric service. More dangerously, they pose a threat when youngsters climb in branches near power lines.

Your electric cooperative routinely inspects its miles of line each year to make sure they are clear of brush and branches.  Trimming is necessary, but our crews try to keep the trees attractive as they work.

You can help, too. The best time to avoid the problem is when you plant. Make sure your growing tree will stay clear of power lines. Proper pruning of young trees controls their branch growth.

Plant wisely.  You'll enjoy the pleasure of trees and the reliable convenience of electricity.



Electric Cooperatives of Illinois

An Affirmative Action Equal Opportunity Employer

Miscellaneous energy-saving tips for summer

While your friends at the local electric co-op want you to use all the electricity you need, they want you to use it wisely, too, so you won't "break the bank."

We've stressed several times here that most energy used in homes, by far, is used for heating and cooling, and wise heating and cooling will save you the most money with the least amount of effort: All you need to do is to raise your thermostat setting in the summertime, or lower it during the heating season.

After heating and cooling—or "comfort conditioning, as it's sometimes known—the next two biggest users of electricity in most homes are water heating (15 percent) and refrigerators and freezers (also 15 percent).

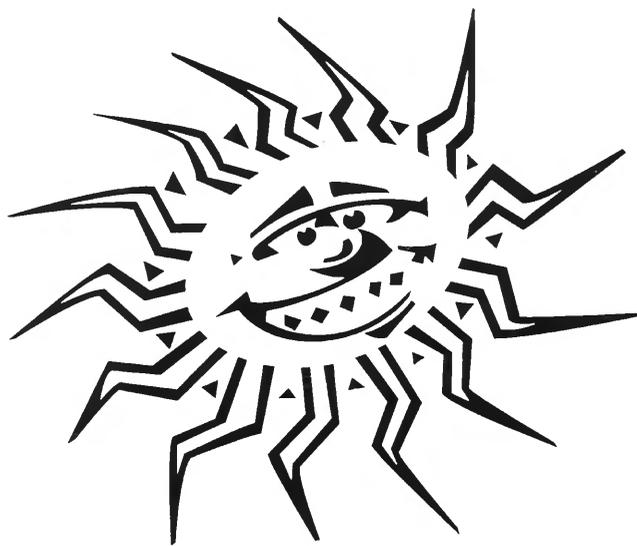
Some 24 percent goes into lighting, cooking and running other appliances. Obviously, you'll find the biggest savings in the higher-use categories. In addition to changing your thermostat, the addition of insulation and/or weatherstripping can help you save a lot on both heating and cooling, and you can often do some of the work yourself, using fairly inexpensive materials.

With summer fully here now after what may well have been the weirdest winter and spring in memory, you may want to think about paying some attention to your air conditioning system. Keep your cooling system well tuned, and see that it gets periodic maintenance by a professional serviceman. This isn't something you need to do every year, but if it's been a while since anyone's had a look at the machine's innards, you may want to call a serviceman.

It helps a unit run cooler if you plant trees or shrubs close by the outside unit, to shade it. Don't plant them so close that they'll shed leaves in the machinery and get in a repairman's way. A few well-placed shrubs will increase efficiency by as much as 10 percent.

But there are many simple no-cost steps you can use to save a little money, and they just involve a change of habits. It's old advice, but we tend to forget: Shut off the lights in an unused room. While that won't make you rich, it'll help a little, and it doesn't cost anything.

Many of us tend to leave TV sets on all the time, in the forlorn hope that something worth



watching is bound to come on eventually. A good-sized color TV draws a fair amount of current. You can save a little money by shutting yours off when you're not specifically watching a program you want to see.

A common energy waster that many people overlook is the bathroom ventilation fan. You need to run that little rascal for a few minutes after bathing or showering, but it's hard to remember to shut it off after it has done its job. If you can get into the habit of flipping that switch off after a 10-minute run time, you can often save on two counts: the energy used by the fan motor, and the energy used to heat or cool the air it exhausts.

Since much of the energy used in doing laundry goes to heat water, you can save a little by changing to cooler washes and rinses, whenever possible. And, of course, you may want to keep after faucet washers, wherever they are. It seems to be a natural law that the first faucet to leak will be the hot water one, and that wastes both water and heat.

If you are one of those fortunate folks who live in the country, you may have more to worry about than your town and suburban cousins, because you're far more likely to have your own well. That may include a pressure tank, which has a tendency to get "waterlogged" as time goes by, causing your pump to run more than necessary. Be sure to keep after that, too.

Watts New

McDonough Power Cooperative

Macomb, Illinois 61455

Nominating committee report

Pursuant to the bylaws, the members of the nominating committee met at the Macomb Dining Company, Macomb, June 27, 1996 at 7:00 p.m. to nominate candidates for election as directors at the McDonough Power Cooperative's next annual meeting of members to be held at 7:00 p.m., Monday, August 19, 1996.

The following members were present:

Brian Monroe	Tim Phelps
Dennis Iverson	Walter Hawkins
Lauren Still	Hodge Herndon
Jeffrey Hatch	Jeff Moore
Calvin Moore	Gene Curtis
Dan McMillan	David Morrow

The committee selected the following nominees to be candidates for directors to serve for a three year term and be elected at the annual meeting.

District 4
District 6
District 9

Stan Prox
Kenneth Moore
Steven Youngquist

Any 15 or more members acting together may make other nominations by petition. Additional nominations for directors may be made from the floor at the meeting.

Daniel E. McMillan

Dated: June 27, 1996, Chairman

Meeting of Members

Following are excerpts from the bylaws concerning meeting of members.

Article II: Meeting of Members: Section 1, annual meeting. The annual meeting of members shall be held once each calendar year at such time and at such place within a county served by the cooperative, as selected by the board and which shall be designated in the notice of the meeting for the purpose of electing board members, passing upon reports for the previous year and transacting such other business as may come before the meeting. Section 3. Notice of Member's meeting. Written or printed notice stating the place, day and hour of the meeting and, in case of a special meeting or an annual meeting at which business requiring special notice is to be transacted, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called shall be delivered not less than seven days nor more than thirty days before the meeting, either person-

ally or by mail by or the direction of the secretary upon a default in duty by the secretary by the persons calling the meeting to each member. If mailed, such notices shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail, addressed to the member at his/her address as it appears on the records of the cooperative, with postage thereon prepaid. In the case of a joint membership notice, given to either husband or wife shall be deemed notice to both. Section 4. Quorum. At least one percent of the members present in person or represented by proxy shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at all meetings of the members. In case of a joint membership, it shall be regarded as the presence of one member. If less than a quorum is present at any meeting a majority of these present in person or represented by proxy may adjourn the meeting from time to time without further notice.

"Peak 90" June 15 - September 15, 1996

McDonough Power Cooperative requests when the temperature is predicted to be 90 or above, its consumers use major appliances or equipment before 12 noon or after 8 p.m. This helps control our peak demand and allows us to pass that savings on to you! Effective June 15-Sept 15, 1996.

McDonough Power Cooperative's Annual Meeting

7:00 p.m. Monday, August 19, 1996
Fellheimer Auditorium, Macomb High School

- Election of directors—report of officers and manager
- \$5 will be credited to September bill for registering
- Drawings for ten \$10 credits on September energy bill
 - \$25 name-a-minute drawing
- Drawing for a Char Broil electric barbecue grill & other prizes

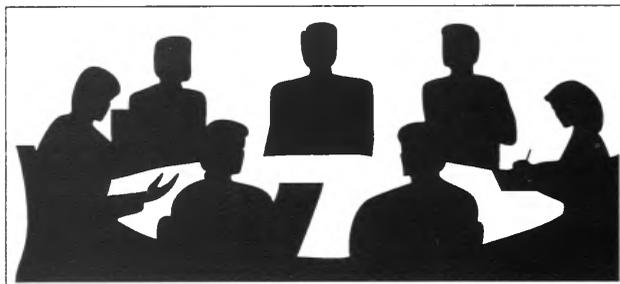
*Fellheimer Auditorium, in Macomb High School is located at
1525 South Johnson St., Macomb.*

Your official notice will list the names of the members nominated for your cooperative board of directors. These nominees were selected by the nominating committee, which met June 27, 1996. Additional nominations may be made by petition or from the floor at your annual meeting.

A name a minute will be drawn from the general membership. For those present and your name is drawn, a \$25 credit will be given toward their September energy bill.

There will be two drawings, 5 names each time, for a total of 10 names from those registered to receive \$10 credit on their September energy bill. Each member who registers will receive a \$5.00 credit on their September energy bill.

A drawing will also be held for a charbroiled electric barbecue grill with accessories, other electrical appliances and tools.



You must be present to win for all prize drawings.

***Special entertainment will feature
Nadene Bent, humorist from
Camp Point, Illinois.***



Nadene Bent

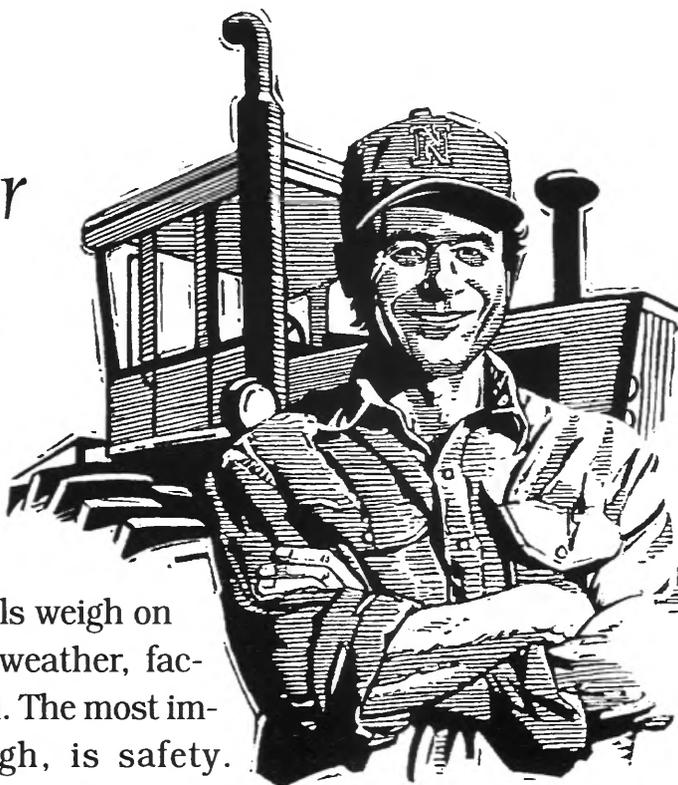
Nadene began sharing her humor and encouragement with various groups in 1975. Since that time, the demand for her presentations has grown by leaps and bounds.

Nadene and her husband, Wayne, (of 41 years), owned and operated Bent's Red Fox Food Store in Camp Point until 1992. She still works for their son Jim, and wife, who are buying the store.

Nadene is very excited to be able to share at the 1996 McDonough Power Cooperative Annual Meeting on August 19.

***Don't miss this delightful
presentation.***

*Don't let your
guard down*



This time of year, details weigh on your mind . . . money, weather, factors vital to your livelihood. The most important concern, though, is safety. Tragedy can occur in that flash of an instant when you let your guard down — taking a short cut, overlooking basic safety rules. To ensure future harvests, always work the safe way.

- ☛ *Watch out for overhead power lines.*
- ☛ *Wear appropriate protective equipment.*
- ☛ *Make sure helpers are familiar with equipment they are using.*
- ☛ *Shut off power before fixing or unclogging machines.*
- ☛ *Keep extended machinery away from power pole guy wires.*
- ☛ *Keep shields in place.*



Electric Cooperatives of Illinois

An Affirmative Action Equal Opportunity Employer

Safety with electrical outlets

We all know that electricity is wonderful stuff. Good things happen when we flip a switch. Lights beat back the darkness, warmth replaces the cold, dishes and clothes get washed and dried, TV sets come on, and water flows in and out of our house in an orderly fashion.

But there's a dark side to electricity, too. It's a lot like controlled lightning, and when it gets out of control, it can add a whole new meaning to the phrase, "Reach out and zap someone."

What follows is a description of a few gadgets that will help you keep the "electric genie" in the bottle until you need it. Installing one or more of them will make your home at least a little safer, and maybe a lot safer.

The first gadget costs very little, and you can install it yourself in minutes. It's designed primarily to protect those toddlers who seem determined to plumb the depths of all electrical outlets, using a bobby pin or paper clip. There are plastic outlet covers that simply plug into an unused receptacle. They're easy to remove when you need to plug in an appliance. Look for them in the electrical section of your department store or in a building supply place. A package of a dozen will set you back less than two dollars. Put one in each outlet a toddler is even remotely capable of reaching.

After those little gadgets, things get a bit more expensive, but the simplicity is, for the most part, still there. There are several different kinds of ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs), and they're real miracle workers. Essentially, they sense a problem in a circuit and shut it off before enough current gets through to cause injury. While it definitely isn't something you'd want to try at home, a demonstrator of the devices has plugged in a hair dryer and plunged it into a sink. Before GFCIs, such dunkings were almost always fatal.

Again, GFCIs are not intended to enable you to do dangerous things. They're intended to provide a big margin of safety when you accidentally

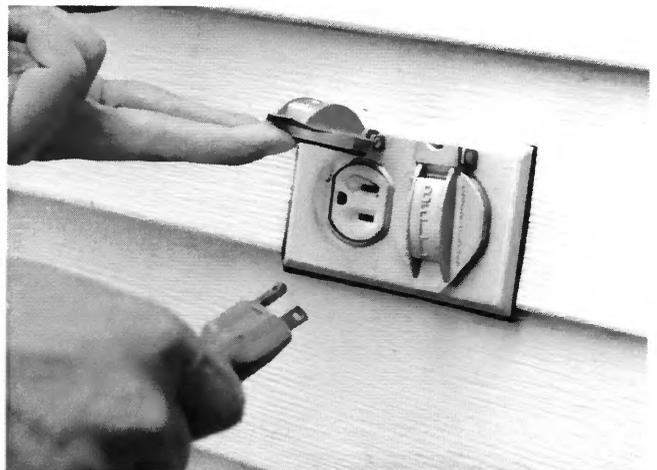


do something hazardous. Incidentally, building codes today require the installation of GFCI-protected circuits in kitchens, bathrooms and in outdoor receptacles. The ones we're discussing are useful in homes built without them. There are several different kinds, and you'd be wise to check out the possibility of using one outdoors or any-

place where water and electricity are likely to mix, such as in kitchens and bathrooms. You can buy a portable GFCI, which plugs into an outlet, and into which you then plug lights or appliances. They're simple to use and inexpensive. Once they "trip," and save your bacon, you need to correct the problem, then press the little "reset" button they have, and you're ready to be protected again.

Another GFCI is built into the end of an extension cord, and is useful when using power tools and the like. They're especially handy when you're working outside. Yet another kind of GFCI is built into the receptacles in the walls, and would be a wise addition to any home. They can be wired to protect just one outlet, or an outlet and all the ones further down the circuit. Be sure to have them installed by a qualified electrician.

A circuit breaker GFCI can be installed in your breaker box, and will protect all the outlets on that circuit. Again, you'd be wise to have an electrician do the installation. Outlets in newer homes should be protected, but homes built before the code change are likely to have no protection at all. Be sure to check out one of the above forms of GFCIs. The portable ones should be cheapest and easiest to use, but less convenient in the long run. Whatever you do, try to get some protection on your kitchen and bathroom as soon as possible!



Watts New

McDonough Power Cooperative Macomb, Illinois 61455

Game preserve offers hunting opportunities

Riverwood Game Preserve Ltd. is a public facility which provides for hunting of quail, chukar and partridge. Riverwood is tucked away on approximately 1,000 acres on the eastern edge of Hancock County. Four hundred of these acres produce hay which makes for a hunting challenge in the autumn when the final growth is standing.

The spacious area can provide room for 30-40 persons or up to five groups hunting at once. Each group is allowed a specified, 200-acre area, with the chance of probably never seeing another group while there.

Reservations for specific hunting packages can be made for a minimum fee of \$100 which includes; eight pheasant, 12 chukar and 15 quail. Residential hunting licenses have no limits on game, like open season. For a nominal fee, Riverwood allows for guided hunts, and bird dogs, (which are a must). However, you are welcome to bring your own hunting dogs.

Nearly every weekend of the prime hunting season, Nov. 1-April 1, is booked. Calling for reservations occurs throughout the entire summer to ensure hunt-

ers have a guaranteed time and date to visit Riverwood. Hunters come from Adams, Schuyler, McDonough and Hancock Counties in Illinois. The farthest distance any guest has traveled is from Georgia. Other regional hunters travel from Bloomington and Peoria with the largest hunting population right here from the immediate West Central Illinois and tri-state area.

Also located on the preserve is a rustic, superbly decorated Appalachian log home which is for private use by the owner, Duncan Cooper. Cooper is also a dealer for Appalachian log homes. Mr. Cooper is also a dealer for Appalachian Log Homes.

Sam Biswell, general manager of Riverwood since 1989, oversees the everyday operations, ground maintenance, snow removal, hay baling and also does scheduling for guests to visit Riverwood.

This hideaway in rural eastern Hancock County can provide an enjoyable hunting experience for anyone interested in this sport. For more information write Riverwood Game Preserve, RR #1, Box 68, Tennessee, Illinois 63474 or call (309) 776-4368.



Sam Biswell, manager of Riverwood, is pictured with the sign in front of the preserve.

Nothing beats DIRECTV™ for family entertainment.

The Disney Channel



Looking for television programs the whole family can watch? Look no further. DIRECTV brings you the very best in family viewing...with as many as 150 channels to choose from. If you want programming that satisfies every member of the family, nothing compares to DIRECTV.

The choice is clear. DIRECTV.



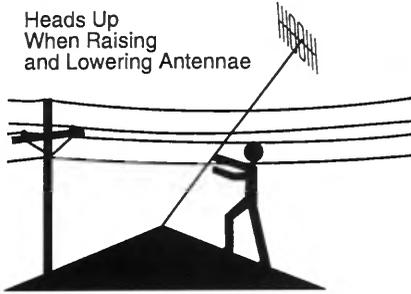
Contact McDonough Power Cooperative at 309-833-2101 for more information.
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Equipment and programming sold separately. NRTC 1995.

DIRECTORS

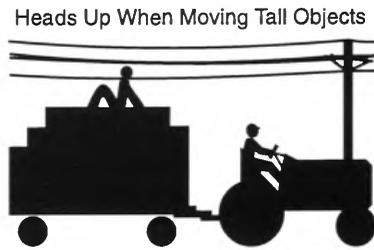
Bill Pollock, President • Howard Butler, Vice President • Jerry Riggins, Secretary • Stan Prox, Treasurer
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All Co-op Electric Outages 837-1400

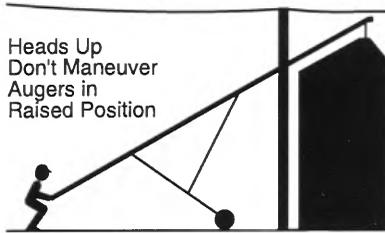
Heads Up!



Heads Up
When Raising
and Lowering Antennae



Heads Up When Moving Tall Objects

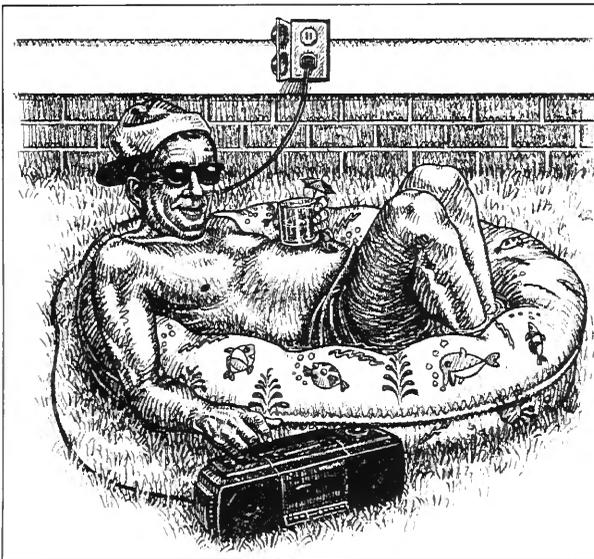


Heads Up
Don't Maneuver
Augers in
Raised Position

Coming in contact with overhead power lines can be deadly. Today's farm machinery is bigger and taller, making the danger of working around electric lines greater than ever. Harvest time can be the most dangerous time of all. Make sure all family members understand these rules:

Utility lines are uninsulated. Don't let your body become a direct link to the ground or the result could be fatal. Know the clearance height of all farm equipment. To be safe, keep all objects at least 10 feet away from overhead lines.

NEVER attempt to raise or move a power line. If you're operating a combine or other equipment that touches a line, stay where you are and have someone call the cooperative. If you must leave the equipment, jump as far as you can so that no part of your body touches the equipment and the ground at the same time.



Don't touch That Dial.

If you do, you could be in for a shock. Because every summer many people are injured by electrical appliances in or near water or wet areas. So, remember, when you're near water, no radios that are not battery powered. No electric fans. No electric blenders for those frozen whatevers. If it plugs into the wall, keep it away from water or any wet surfaces. Enjoy your summer with some great rock-and-roll. But don't mix electricity and water. Or shock jocks will take on a whole new meaning.

We Get Our Power From You.

Cool answers to hot questions

The folks at McDonough Power Cooperative have some cool ideas to help you save energy and money during the hot months of summer. To make the most of your air-conditioner, don't forget to:

- Use a dehumidifier to take moisture out of the air, you'll use less air-conditioning.
- Cut back your use of hot water and heavy cooking on hot days. They add heat and humidity to your home.
- Keep heat-producing items, like TVs and lamps, away from the thermostat.
- Tune up your air-conditioner for maximum efficiency. Clean or replace filters once a month.

And there's more. The folks at McDonough Power Cooperative invite you to call them for more advice to save money and keep cool.

Remember "Peak 90"

Most businesses want you to buy more of what they sell, that's not necessarily true of your electric coop. Sure, we want you to have all the electricity you need. But we also want you to get a lot of value for your power dollar. Wise use is one way to do that.

Cooperatives were created to provide service to members, not profits to stockholders. That's why McDonough Power is encouraging you to remember "Peak 90" June 15-Sept. 15, 1996.

We are requesting MPC consumers to use major appliances or equipment before 12:00 noon or after 8:00 p.m., June 15-Sept. 15, 1996. This helps control our peak demand and allows us to pass that savings on to you.

The answer: a garage, a bush, and a dog.

The question is, "What kind of things stand between your electric meter and accurate billing?"

Your electric cooperative's meter readers need easy access to your meter so that your billing will be correct. Sometimes, the reader will find that a



garage has been added to a home and the meter is now locked indoors.



grown into a big obstacle right in front of the meter.



Then there's the family dog who's left outside to protect the property.

It not only makes the meter reader's job difficult, but it can make it dangerous, too. Take a moment to check your meter. If you can't get to it, neither can we. If you have questions or need to make arrangements for our access, just call.



Electric Cooperatives of Illinois

Good for ALL Illinois

An Affirmative Action Equal Opportunity Employer

Fuses, breakers and electrical safety

Probably every house built since the advent of electrical service has had some kind of circuit-overload protection built into its wiring system.

Years ago, fuses were used, and there was a separate one for each circuit. Builders who wanted to "cut corners" could do it easily by cutting back on the number of circuits they provided. Unfortunately, many took advantage of that option, and there are thousands of houses all over

the country still grossly under-wired.

Some older homes have just two circuits: one for lights in the ceiling, the other for wall outlets.

Such a house will give its owner endless headaches in the form of blown fuses and frustrations.

Often, a person who wants to plug in a toaster will need to shut off a couple of lamps or unplug a refrigerator or TV set to keep from blowing a fuse.



Fuses such as these are no longer in widespread use, having been replaced by breakers.

Most of those houses were built years ago, when a radio was the primary form of entertainment, and when a refrigerator was, in all likelihood, the only electric kitchen appliance. Clothes were dried outside on a clothesline. It didn't take many circuits to serve such a house.

Now, we have TV sets—often several in a house—microwave ovens, VCRs, toasters, electric skillets, automatic bread makers, and any number of other gadgets that we enjoy so much.

Now that we all tend to enjoy all those things, many of us have problems with our electricity. Fuses and circuit breakers are designed to protect us from the dangers of short circuits and overloads.

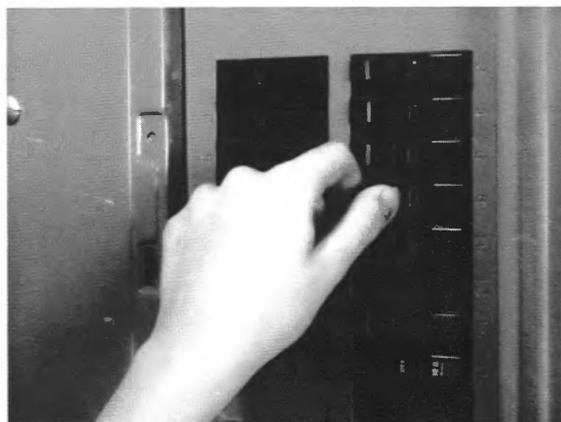
You might think of a fuse as a form of safety valve that pops off when something's wrong. A fuse is intended to be the weakest link in your home's wiring system. If you get an overload and something overheats, any damage that's going to be done will take place in the safety of your fusebox, and will be done to the fuse itself, as it is sacrificed to save the house.

When fuses blow frequently, there is always the

temptation to "outsmart" them by using a higher-amperage fuse than what the circuit was designed for. Don't try it! That just moves the danger spot out of your fusebox and into your wiring system, where it may cause a fire. Using a coin or piece of foil to bypass the fuse will do the same thing.

A stopgap measure to keep fuses from blowing is to use fewer electrical devices, but that's just treating the symptoms. If you have persistent electrical problems, your best bet in the long run is to call a qualified electrician and have him rewire your home, or at least add some circuits.

Make sure he knows what kind of appliances and lights you have and how many of them you're likely to use at one time. And remember that if you're like most of us, you have far more electrical goodies than you had a decade ago, and you'll probably add a few more in the future. There are a few shortcuts an electrician can take advantage of to make your wiring job cheaper, but there's one thing you should insist on. Tell him you want the



Breakers such as these are more convenient than fuses: if they trip often, you still have problems.

job done "to code." He'll know what you're talking about. The National Electrical Code was developed over the years to set standards for safe electrical wiring, and to prevent the construction of houses with just one or two circuits. A house wired to code will have at least the minimum number of circuits to do the job right.

While we've discussed fuses here, they have been replaced to a large extent by circuit breakers. They operate much like fuses, but they aren't destroyed by an overload problem. If a breaker "trips," you can go to the breaker box, reset the breaker, and you're back in business.

Even so, breakers that trip frequently are a sign of problems that need to be cured. You need to avoid an overload, or have an electrician find the short circuit that's causing your breakers to trip. And don't forget to insist that any work be up to code. It's a definite safety necessity, not a luxury.

Watts New

McDonough Power Cooperative

Macomb, Illinois 61455

Across the Manager's Desk



By Dickson L. Dunsworth

Being committed to the community we serve means making the decision that service to the community involves more than just making sure your electric service is reliable. Even in these days when electric utilities are faced with competition that's getting tougher every day, going the extra mile in consumer and community service is standard operating procedure for an electric cooperative. It has to be that way because electric cooperatives are fundamentally different than for-

profit electric utilities.

Every day now, we hear reports of other utility companies closing their local offices and moving out of town in order to save money. When that happens, their customers have to do business long distance, frequently talking to people hundreds and sometimes thousands of miles away. Your local electric cooperative is different. Our first obligation is to our consumers. You can still stop by the local office and talk to someone you know about any part of your service. And when you call your electric cooperative, you'll speak to someone close by who knows your community and what's happening in it.

Being a local electric cooperative means doing business close to home. Because our consumers are also our owners, the cooperative gives first consideration to what's in the consumers' best interest. So, there will always be someone nearby you can talk to about any aspect of your electric service.

Leaving for the winter?

If you are one of our lucky members leaving the area for the winter months, please contact the cooperative for payment of your electric bill during your absence.

Payment of your account/s can be made one of four ways.

1. Prepayment on your account.
2. Have your bill mailed to your winter residence.

3. Charge to your MasterCard or Visa.
4. Automated Payment from your checking account.*

*(Note: allow 2 billing cycles to implement.)

A **Meter reading only** card can be sent to your neighbor so that current meter readings are recorded. Please call the business office for more details.

Nothing beats DIRECTV™ for family entertainment.

The Disney Channel



Looking for television programs the whole family can watch? Look no further. DIRECTV brings you the very best in family viewing...with as many as 150 channels to choose from. If you want programming that satisfies every member of the family, nothing compares to DIRECTV.

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Contact McDonough Power Cooperative at 309-833-2101 for more information.
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Equipment and programming sold separately. NRTC 1995.

Now accepting MasterCard or Visa for payment of Electric Bills

The eventual outcome of electric utility deregulation is unknown, but McDonough Power Cooperative is working to remain a vital part of the community it serves. During the co-op's annual meeting, Aug. 19 at Macomb High School, officials talked about the importance of maintaining a business that is progressive while keeping its local ties.

Manager Dickson Dunsworth described "retail wheeling" — a term for customers choosing their electric utility — as a subject "that will be cussed and discussed for the next few years." He said that large manufacturers and industries are pressuring legislators and public power commissions to let them shop for their power sources.

Dunsworth said the concern of cooperatives like McDonough Power is that savings for big customers may mean a burden for the remaining, mostly residential consumers. He added that safety and reliability of electric service must not be compromised in the scramble for new business and cost cutting.

McDonough Power is striving to be as competitive as possible if retail wheeling becomes a reality, he said.

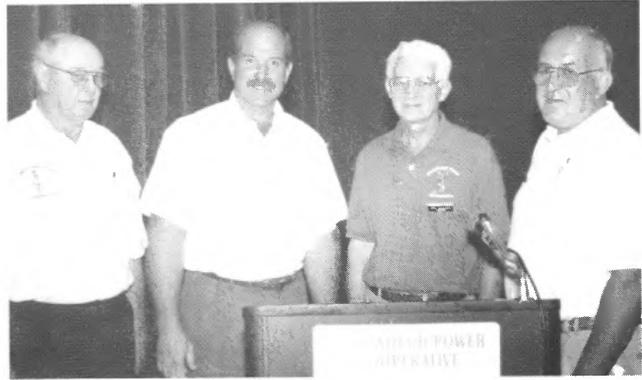
A primary goal is to reduce the cost of wholesale power purchased from the cooperative's supplier, Soyland Power Cooperative.

Amid all the changes, Dunsworth said, the co-op is committed to making sure its members are treated fairly.

Emphasizing this year's annual meeting theme, "We're Main Street, not Wall Street," was William J. Pollock of Colchester, board president.

"Everyone seems to think 'Big is Best,'" he said. As companies merge into larger bodies, they start to lose "the personal touch." He noted that some telephone and electric companies have closed their local offices.

Meanwhile, Pollock said, "your local cooperative has carried on, remaining a vital part of your community, supplying the reliable service it was organized for."



Two incumbent directors and a newcomer were elected to three-year terms on the board of McDonough Power Cooperative during its 1996 annual meeting. Pictured from left are re-elected director O. Kenneth Moore of Good Hope, new director Steve Youngquist of Cameron, Manager Dickson Dunsworth and re-elected director Stan Prox of Macomb.

"Our employees and the directors on the board are your neighbors, the same men and women you see at a ball game or in the grocery store. Co-ops are not operated for stockholders who live in some distant city who are only interested in their dividend check," he said. McDonough Power is not just a pipeline for electricity. We are a source for many valuable services in rural communities. We continue to serve our members as other businesses come and go.

During the meeting, the cooperative and its members honored a retiring board director, Thomas M. Curtis of Monmouth, who has served for 15 years. He was board president from 1987 to 1992.

The members also voted to fill three new terms on the co-op's board. Elected for the seat vacated by Curtis' retirement was Steve Youngquist of Cameron. Re-elected were O. Kenneth Moore of Good Hope and Stan Prox of Macomb.

Winner of Grand Prize CharBroil Grill - Brent Payne

\$25.00 Energy Bill Credit

Harold Anderson
Robert Bland
Junior Bradford
Randy Briggs
Charles Butterfield
Howard Clayton
Wayne Copes
Leroy Dunn

\$10.00 Energy Bill Credit

John Keithley
Clifford Munson
Gerald K. Payne
Kenneth Watt
John Keithley
Kenneth Vancil
Irvin McGaughey
Richard Carlile
Royal Bryan
Eugene Pibal
Wilma Nell
Leland Wolf

Other Prizes

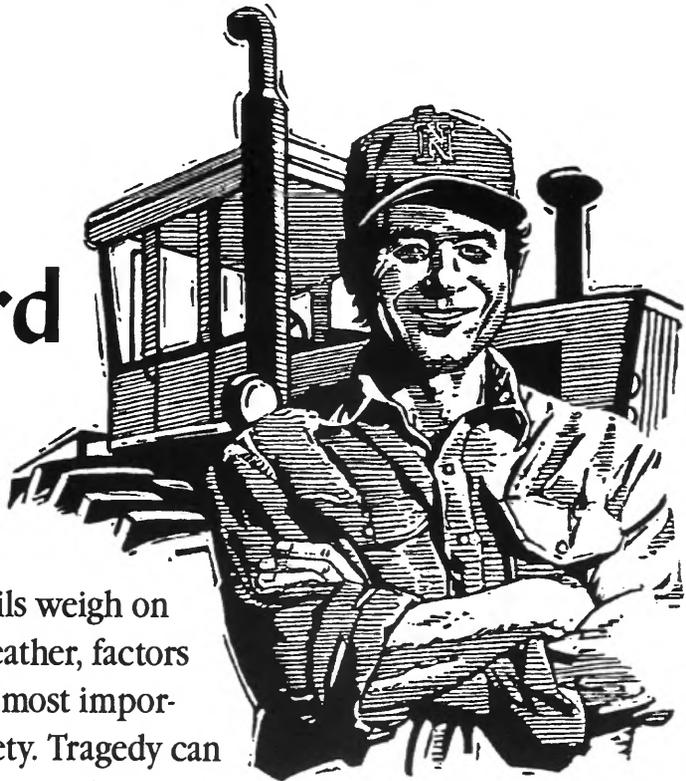
Tom Curtis	Walter Hopkins	Junior Bradford
George Sperry	AB Foust	Jerry Yocum
Calvin Moore	Alfred Hagan	Lee-Hia Ting
Paul Rowland	James Konkler	Donald Schmalshof
Charles Murdock	Michael Long	Robert Bland
Clifton Torrance	Wayne Evans	Geneva Schramm
Norma Bland	Kenneth Sowers	Leroy Tappe
Flora Lewis	Damon Griswold	

DIRECTORS

Bill Pollock, President • Stan Prox, Vice President • Jerry Riggins, Secretary • Steve Lynn, Treasurer
Mark Anderson • Michael Cox • Steve Youngquist • Steve Lynn • Kenneth Moore • John D. McMillan, Attorney

All Co-op Electric Outages 837-1400

Don't let your guard down



This time of year, details weigh on your mind . . . money, weather, factors vital to your livelihood. The most important concern, though, is safety. Tragedy can occur in that flash of an instant when you let your guard down – taking a short cut, overlooking basic safety rules. To ensure future harvests, always work the safe way.

- ☛ Watch out for overhead power lines.
- ☛ Wear appropriate protective equipment.
- ☛ Make sure helpers are familiar with equipment they are using.
- ☛ Shut off power before fixing or unclogging machines.
- ☛ Keep extended machinery away from power pole guy wires.
- ☛ Keep shields in place.



Electric Cooperatives of Illinois

An Affirmative Action Equal Opportunity Employer

Head off infiltration before winter hits

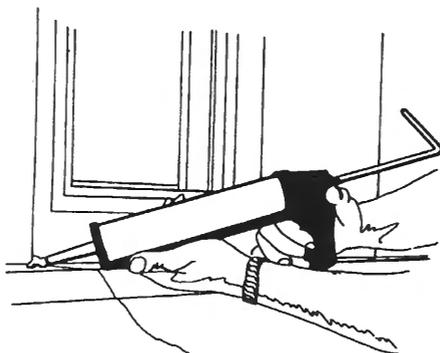
Fall is here, with the turning leaves, shorter days, cooler weather and gentle breezes. For those who enjoy the change of seasons, fall can be a wonderful time. As for the rest of us, we know that winter is nipping at the heels of fall even now, and the cool breezes will be replaced by wintry blasts seemingly straight off the North Pole.

It's true, as we've said here many times, that tightening up your house will save you money all year 'round. But a snug home seems to be more comfortable when the temperature's down in the single digits and the wind's seeking out the little nooks and crannies in the walls of your house. No matter what the time of year, some caulking and weatherstripping will help reduce air infiltration, one of the biggest sources of energy waste.

If your windows leak air around the edges of the window, inside the frame, you can minimize the infiltration by putting in a shrink-fit film on the inside. While it looks difficult, it really isn't. You can buy kits at hardware and home-supply stores, and they usually include double-sided tape and enough film to do one or two windows. They come in different sizes, so you'll need to know how big your windows are. The kits are generic, so you may need to buy a larger film than you actually need and cut it to fit with scissors. One of the hardest parts of this little chore is peeling the backing off the double-sided tape.

After you get the tape up and the plastic cut to size, you apply the film, carefully, and press it against the tape, which you've put around the window frame and peeled the backing off of, naturally! If it's not perfect, you're still okay. You can shrink it to fit with a hair dryer.

No matter how snugly they're built, some homes have problems with infiltration that require somewhat more effort. Weatherstripping may be your next step, and is probably the next simplest up the line of things to do. It involves the use of materials to seal cracks that are supposed to be there,



but that aren't supposed to leak. This includes doors and windows, and weatherstripping should fill those gaps so the window or door can be opened and closed as needed, but air is kept out when it's closed.

There are all kinds of weatherstripping materials on the market, and cost varies considerably. These materials also vary in ease of installation and the quality of the job they do. Look for them in the "insulation" or "weatherization" section of your local home improvement place, and look for good, understandable instructions on the package. And if you're at all unhandy, talk to someone in the store and have them clear up any misunderstandings you have about installing the stuff. They'll be glad to help you. That's what they're there for. Be sure to ask how long you can expect the different materials to last. Usually the ones that cost the most and/or are the most difficult to install tend to last longest.

Caulking is intended to seal cracks that seem to grow between different kinds of construction materials. These cracks

are partly due to settling during the aging process, and partly because different materials expand and contract differently as the temperature changes. As a general rule, caulking should be applied wherever two different materials or parts of the house meet.

Caulking materials, for the most part, come in disposable tubes, and are applied with an inexpensive caulking gun. Since it's as easy to apply a high-quality compound, it makes good sense to use the best caulk you can.

Oil or resin-based caulks are inexpensive, last from one to seven years, and adhere fairly well. They're the least expensive of the caulking materials. Latex, polyvinyl and butyl rubber are better. They adhere better and last two to 10 years, but they're somewhat more expensive. The silicone, polysulfides and polyurethanes are better yet, with excellent adhesion and a 20-year life expectancy. They're more expensive than the other types, too.

You can apply caulking with a few low-cost tools and a little practice. When you load your caulking gun, cut the tube open with a sharp knife at a 45-degree angle near the end of the tapered portion. The ability to lay a nice, uniform bead comes with a little practice. Be sure to scrape away the old materials and clean the surfaces, before you start caulking.

And while you're at it, look for other air leaks through openings where plumbing or electrical wiring go through walls, floors and ceilings.

While there are any number of things you can do, the most important thing is to get started. Get started on some infiltration prevention work soon. Winter will be here before you know it!

Watts New

McDonough Power Cooperative

Macomb, Illinois 61455

Across the Manager's Desk



By Dickson L. Dunsworth

As we pause within the next month for the Thanksgiving Holiday, we must say thanks for taking the time and interest to read about your Cooperative.

We would like to update you on the special services McDonough Power Cooperative offers to our MEMBER-CONSUMERS. You can still call, come to our office and have your questions answered face to face, without delay of an automated telephone system or without leaving voice mail messages. We intend to keep offering these direct services to you because we stand behind our motto "More Than a Power Supplier."

Did you know McDonough Power Offers —

- MASTERCARD or VISA charge to pay energy bills or security deposits.
- Automatic deduction from your checking account for payment of your energy bills.
- \$70 REBATE for a new electric water heater installation or replacement of a gas water heater with an electric one.
- DIRECTV television programming, featuring as many as 150 television channel selections.
- Special rates on the following heating/cooling systems: Geothermal, Electric Heat, (regular and metered).
- Rebates for installation of Geothermal and Air-To-Air Heat Pump heating/cooling systems.
- Low interest loans for members, installing a ground source or Air-To-Air heat pump system.
- A large selection of surge protection devices for your electronic equipment, appliances or your entire home.
- Information on **The PureWater System** for your home or business, provides up to 25 gallon of drinking water per day.

For more information about any of these services, call McDonough Power Cooperative at (309)833-2101.

Soyland completes debt buy out, preliminary power supply contract

Soyland Power Cooperative has achieved a major breakthrough in its long struggle to restructure its long term debt and lower the cost of wholesale power for its 21 distribution cooperative members, including McDonough Power Cooperative, ensuring stable retail rates for our members.

Joe Firlit, Soyland president and CEO, said the power cooperative has bought out its nearly \$1.2 billion debt with the Rural Utilities Service for a one-time payment of \$235 million. The debt buy out was financed by the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation. The agreement was completed in mid-September.

At the same time, Soyland and Illinova, the parent company of Illinois Power, announced a preliminary agreement that says a subsidiary of Illinova will acquire Soyland's part ownership of the nuclear Clinton Power Station in exchange

for a minimum 10-year contract to supply Soyland's bulk power needs. Details of the agreements will be worked out over the next few months, Firlit said.

Firlit and Dickson L. Dunsworth, general manager, credit the support of Congressman Dick Durbin and other members of the Illinois congressional delegation for breaking a deadlock in Soyland-RUS negotiations. "We were basically at a standstill in our RUS negotiations when our congressional leaders went to Springfield to convene a meeting of RUS officials with the Soyland negotiating team," Firlit explained. Attending the meeting besides Rep. Durbin were representatives of U.S. Senators Paul Simon and Carol Moseley-Braun, along with representatives of U.S. Representatives Glenn Poshard, Thomas Ewing and Ray LaHood.

Youngquist succeeds as Curtis retires

Thomas Curtis, District 9 Director, choose not to seek reelection to the McDonough Power Cooperative Board of Directors. Steven Youngquist of Cameron was elected to serve the vacancy.

Mr. Youngquist was born and raised in the Warren County area where he farms and is also a representative for Pioneer Seed Sales. Steve's parents are Ronald and Willadene Youngquist also of the same area.

Steve and wife, Christine, have three children, Zack 10, Hannah 7, and Carissa 4. Steve lists sports and family as his special interests.

McDonough Power welcomes the Youngquists to the Cooperative family. We also express our appreciation to Tom for his many years of distinguished and dedicated service to the Rural Electrification Program as a Director of McDonough Power Cooperative.

Credit card news!



McDonough Power Cooperative is now accepting Visa and Mastercard credit cards for electric bill payment. We urge you to try this convenient way to pay your bill.

Closing dates

We will be closed the following dates in November:

Monday, Nov. 11. Veteran's Day: The office will reopen at 8 a.m., Nov. 12. Thursday and Friday, Nov. 28 & 29 for Thanksgiving. The office will reopen at 8 a.m., on Dec. 2.

Depend on life support equipment? We need to know

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

Your cooperative needs to know the names and location of cooperative members who depend on life-support equipment, and it is im-

portant 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 fill out the form below and mail to us as quickly as possible.

Name _____ Phone No. _____
Address _____
McDonough Power Service No. _____
Types of support equipment _____ Days and time of use _____
Do you have an emergency stand-by generator to operate this equipment? Yes No
Mail this form to: McDonough Power Cooperative, P. O. Box 352, Macomb, IL 61455

Nothing beats DIRECTV™ for family entertainment.

The Disney Channel



Looking for television programs the whole family can watch? Look no further. DIRECTV brings you the very best in family viewing...with as many as 150 channels to choose from. If you want programming that satisfies every member of the family, nothing compares to DIRECTV.

The choice is clear. DIRECTV.



Contact McDonough Power Cooperative at 309-833-2101 for more information.
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Equipment and programming sold separately. NRTC 1995.

DIRECTORS

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Mark Anderson • Michael Cox • Steve Youngquist • Steve Lynn • Kenneth Moore • John D. McMillan, Attorney

All Co-op Electric Outages 837-1400

It's *never* open season on power lines!

In their enthusiasm for the hunting season, some hunters cause life-threatening situations by shooting at insulators or power lines. Target practice on insulators or birds sitting on power lines is not sporting and may be fatal. Damaged lines can fall to the ground — a hazard to the hunter and anyone else nearby. Cracked insulators can leave members without service, interrupting emergency communications.

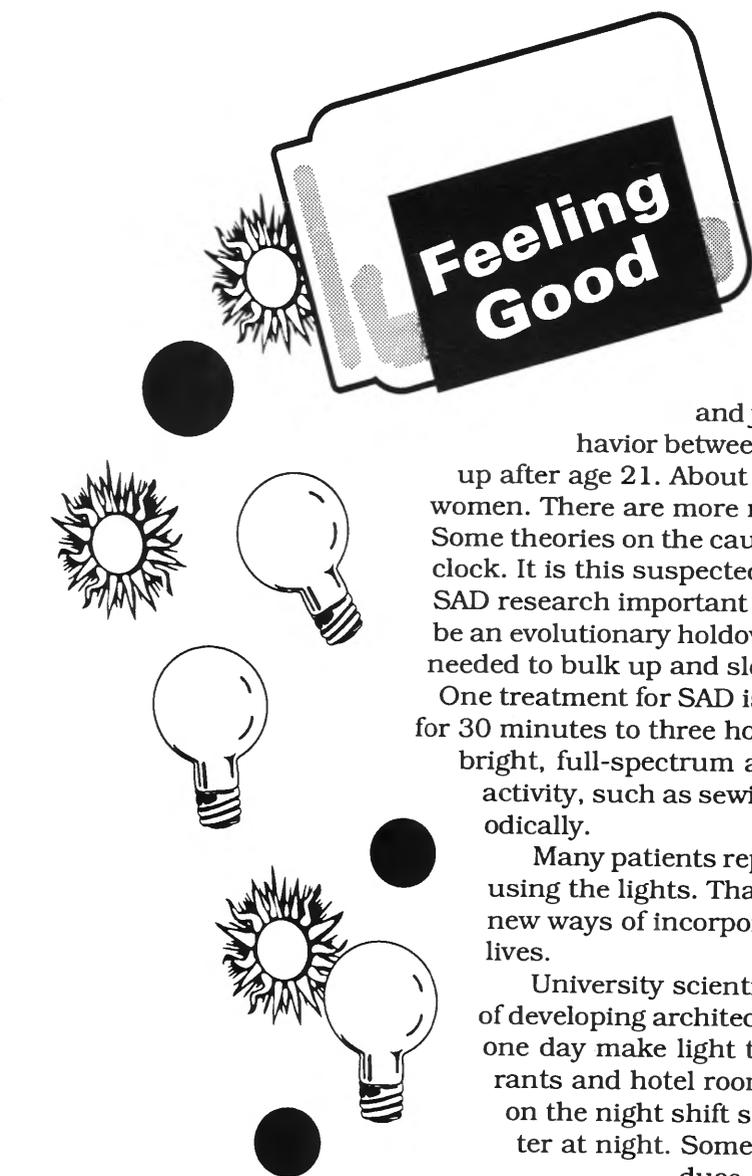
Shooting insulators and other electric equipment is illegal and expensive. It adds to the electric cooperative's operating costs, in which all members share — even the hunter.

Please hunt safely and enjoy the season.



Electric Cooperatives of Illinois

An Affirmative Action Equal Opportunity Employer



When all the reds, yellows and oranges of fall come upon us, about 10 percent of the population get the blues. The moodiness and depression that set in with the first signs of winter now have a name seasonal affective disorder, or SAD. And one of the ways people are fighting this malady is by sitting in front of bright light.

SAD research, which has been going on for about a decade, indicates that millions of people may suffer from severe depression, crying spells, feelings of guilt and helplessness, cravings for sweets

and junk food, listlessness, and even suicidal be-

havior between September and March. SAD usually shows up after age 21. About 85 percent of the documented cases involve women. There are more recorded cases in the North than the South. Some theories on the cause of SAD suggest a problem with the body's clock. It is this suspected relation to the body clock that could make SAD research important for everyone, even non-sufferers. SAD could be an evolutionary holdover from prehistoric days when cave dwellers needed to bulk up and slow down in order to survive winter.

One treatment for SAD is light therapy. Patients are instructed to sit for 30 minutes to three hours every morning and evening in front of a bright, full-spectrum artificial light. They engage in some kind of activity, such as sewing or reading, and glance into the light periodically.

Many patients report a vast improvement in their moods after using the lights. That is prompting researchers to come up with new ways of incorporating the energizing power of light into our lives.

University scientists and private industry are in the process of developing architectural lighting and portable lamps that could one day make light therapy available in homes, offices, restaurants and hotel rooms. Some claim that therapy helps workers on the night shift sleep better during the day and perform better at night. Some who travel have used the lights to help reduce the sleepiness induced by jet lag. There is growing evidence that exposure to certain intensities of light at specific times of day and for particular durations can cure some kinds of insomnia and improve health.

Dr. Wayne London, a psychiatrist who researches the effects of artificial living conditions, contends there is evidence of a relationship between light and some cancers, premenstrual syndrome and sick days for school children. He cites circumstantial evidence that light may even affect Alzheimer's disease, alcoholism, multiple sclerosis and possibly even fertility.

One new light therapy light looks like an ordinary lamp but can be programmed by a microprocessor to reproduce the intensity of a midsummer Hawaiian sunrise. That, researchers say, could provide a refreshing awakening for an apartment dweller in Manhattan in February. There are also glasses and hats designed to provide the necessary light to the eyes.

Light cures the winter blues

Watts New

McDonough Power Cooperative

Macomb, Illinois 61455

Across the Manager's Desk



By Dickson L. Dunsworth

Reflecting over the events of the past year, we would be remiss if we didn't give final tribute to former McDonough Power Manager, Arthur

Peyton. Mr. Peyton passed away in April of this year.

Arthur began his rural electrification career in 1944 with the Rural Electrification Administration as construction engineer in both St. Louis and Washington, D.C. Arthur served as manager for McDonough Power Cooperative from 1947-1975.

On behalf of all McDonough Power Cooperative Directors and employees (retired and current) we express appreciation to Mr. Peyton for the dedication and knowledge he shared in the rural electrification program.

Make the season bright!

You've uncovered those boxes in the attic, full of colored ornaments and tinsel and garland. You've decided where the tree will go, and you have vowed to make sure the lights won't be in such a tangle this time next year.

Before you turn to other holiday activities, please review some safety tips: Did you

- Fix or discard damaged lights?
- Turn off the lights when you left home or went to bed?
- Check for loose prongs on electric plugs?

— Avoid running extension cords under rugs or carpets?

If you answered yes to all of these, proceed with your festivities. If you answered no, take a moment to ensure a safe holiday.



Office Closing

McDonough Power Cooperative office will be closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1, in observance of Christmas and New Year's Day. The office will reopen the following day at 8 a.m.

Have you checked your heat pump?

Heat pumps are usually tucked away out of sight, which makes that same spot a great place to store a multitude of things. It also makes the heat pump into a shelf, and that could be a real problem. The heat pump could be damaged. It will be struggling to get enough air to operate, driving up your electric consumption

and your monthly bill. So, take a look at your heat pump. Make sure it is unobstructed from household items, leaves and debris. You may need to wash it down with a garden hose. And, of course, regularly check the filters inside the house. Then you and your heat pump can breathe easy.

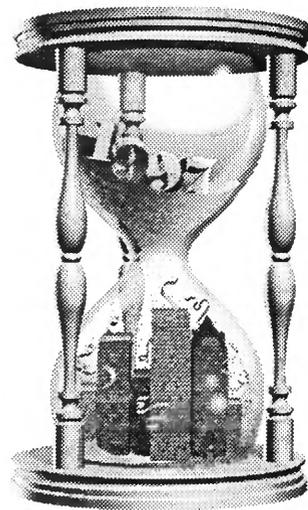
Our New Year's resolution

The holiday season will soon be here, and before you know it, a new year will begin. The employees at McDonough Power Cooperative are making a few New Year's resolutions for 1997. And, at the top of their list is a pledge to their consumer-owners and our community to keep on delivering the best service possible.

Another resolution from McDonough Power Cooperative is to invite and encourage you to share your thoughts and ideas with the cooperative—that way, we can know how we are doing in serving the entire community.

So make a resolution or two for your new year while the employees at McDonough Power wish you a happy holiday season and prosperous new year.

*Doug Bear
Dawn Beck
Gary Budreau
Bill Downey
Dick Dunsworth
Frank Fay
Jill Guarin
Royce Headley
Babs Lawyer
Mike Lucas
Pete Lucas
Elmer Nelson
Tim Norton
Ron Paulsen
Cynthia Rigg
Roger Robeson
Scott Traser Jim Wilson*



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The choice is clear. **DIRECTV.**

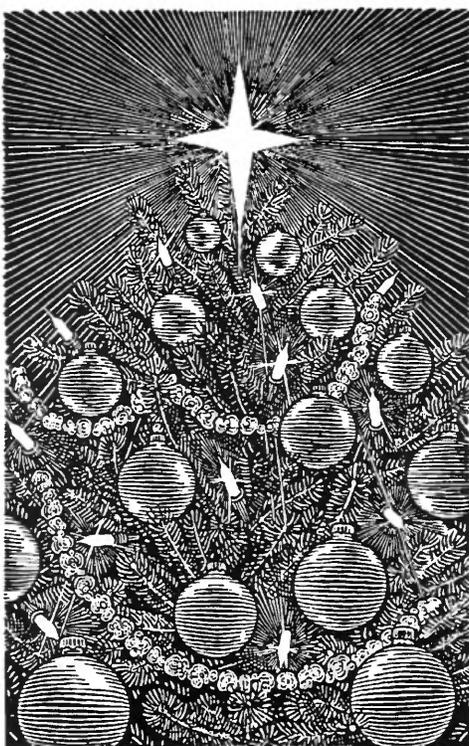
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The light fantastic.

It just wouldn't be Christmas without them. Like sugar cookies, rolls of wrapping paper and familiar carols, those strands of colorful lights help make up that mixture that is Christmas. The main ingredients, though, remain faith and hope for mankind. The yuletide celebrates this optimism, renewing our dedication to the principles and goals that brighten our lives and the lives of our neighbors. And, your electric cooperative sends to you our deepest wishes for a peaceful and joyous holiday season.



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