

JAMUP

JOHNSON • ALEXANDER • MASSAC • UNION • PULASKI

published by Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Dongola, Illinois



Youth-to- Washington Essay Contest

While in Washington, the SIEC youths posed with Congressman Jerry Costello of Belleville. From left are Cristy Caylao, Congressman Costello, Amanda Theis and Jacob Panici.

The Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative (SIEC) Board of Directors once again is offering an essay contest to students attending a high school in the SIEC service area. One boy and one girl will win the grand prize—a week-long, all-expenses-paid tour of Washington, D.C., June 13-20. The tour winners and ten finalists also will win tours of Springfield April 30.

The SIEC directors have sponsored the Youth-to-Washington Essay Contest each year since 1965. More than 1,200 high school juniors and seniors from all over the United States gather in Washington, D.C. to participate in the Rural Electric Youth Tour. Some of the students win contests to qualify for the trip, while others pay their own way and go as “Willie Wiredhands.” The entire group

is sponsored by their local electric cooperatives and activities are coordinated by the AIEC and NRECA.

The program grew out of a suggestion made in 1957 by then-Senator Lyndon B. Johnson, who urged “sending youngsters to the national capital where they can actually see what the flag stands for and represents.” Later he would greet the students as President of the United States.

In Springfield for “Illinois Rural Electric and Telephone Youth Day,” the students will meet legislators and tour the State Capitol complex and historic Springfield sites.

In Washington, students from approximately 38 states will meet and visit members of the Congress, view the White House, tour historical monu-

ments, attend theatrical productions and educational seminars, and get acquainted with fellow students.

Students attending Anna-Jonesboro, Century, Cobden, Dongola, Egyptian, Goreville, Joppa, Meridian, Metropolis, Shawnee or Vienna high schools, may enter the essay contest. The title for this year's composition is “We're Main Street, not Wall Street.” A representative of SIEC will visit your school during the next few months to explain the contest rules and furnish research materials.

If you are interested in writing an essay and have not received the necessary information, please refer to the forms provided in this JAMUP issue. Make plans to enter the contest. You will be glad you did.

Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

618-827-3555 P.O. Box 100
Dongola, IL 62926

Board of Directors

President	Guy Casper	Johnson County
Vice Pres.	Bob J. Ury	Union County
Sec.-treas.	G. Robert Inman	Pulaski County
	Dale Taake	Pulaski County
	Glenn Tripp	Union County
	Raymond C. Snell	Alexander County
	Richard D. Moss	Alexander County
	David L. Martin	Massac County
	Larry Fisher	Massac County

Manager	Larry Lovell
Attorney	Ronald E. Osman
Editor	Carol L. Wilhoit
Office Manager	Chris L. Bennett



Area phone outage information

Whom to call — numbers to call —
and schedule of hours

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.,

Monday through Saturday

Call Toll Free (from Southern Illinois)

1-800-762-1400

or Call Dongola Office 618-827-3555

Calls After Hours Should

Only Concern Outages or Emergencies

**After 4:00 p.m. through 8:00 a.m.
and Sundays and Holidays**

1-800-762-1400	Dongola office
618-827-3555	Dongola office



Make plans now



Amanda leads the group as it leaves the Museum of Natural History.



Jacob, at far left in photo, takes part in



If you do not receive information at your school, please note the contest rules and the entry form included in this issue.

For more information, call 1-800-762-1400.

Left: No tour to Washington is complete without a picture in front of the White House, and the entire group paused briefly for a quick photo.

for the 1997 Youth Tour



activity.

Cristy, Jacob and Amanda shown at a Civil War cannon during the tour of the battlefield at Gettysburg.

Youth-to-Washington Contest Rules

Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

Dongola, IL 62926



1. Who may enter contest:

Any student 15 to 17 year-old (except members of immediate family of any board member or employee of Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative) enrolled in any high school in the area served by this cooperative.

2. Basis of selecting contestants:

Contestants will be selected by writing an essay of not less than 600 words and not exceeding 1,000 words, entitled: "We're Main Street, not Wall Street"

3. Form of entry:

Essay should be typed, on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, double-spaced, one side only.

4. Mailing essays:

Essays must be postmarked or received in the office of Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative by March 17, 1997.

5. Judging:

Judging will be completed by April 1, 1997. No less than three judges will be used to score the written essays. Cooperative personnel will act as advisers to the judges on accuracy of facts. All identification is removed from the essays before judging.

6. Point system:

The following point system will be used:
Student's knowledge of the subject . 40 percent
Originality of paper 30 percent
Composition (organization,
word choice, spelling)..... 30 percent

Youth-to-Washington Essay Contest

"We're Main Street, not Wall Street"

I would like to enter the Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative essay contest. Please furnish the research materials to:

Signature _____

Mailing address _____

Mail to: Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 100, Dongola, IL 62926.



Office closing

**The SIEC office will
be closed on
Monday, Jan. 20
to observe
Martin Luther King Jr. Day.**

JAMUP

43

JOHNSON • ALEXANDER • MASSAC • UNION • PULASKI

published by Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Dongola, Illinois

Home building and energy efficiency They should be synonymous

Starting out most young couples purchase or rent a home which is affordable at the time; usually a compromise at best. They make-do while dreaming of and planning for "a home of our own." Usually it takes a few years to become established financially and make a commitment to build. In the mean time young couples mature, their families grow and interests change. Many plans for homes are considered and rejected until, finally, they discover "the perfect house for us."

That day finally arrives when something has to be done. Their present house is bursting at the seams. By this time most families know where they want to build. The land may have already been obtained and the site likely has had some influence over the final house design.

Financing is arranged. A contractor hired and materials ordered. Within reason, the final cost is known. The mortgage rate has been factored-in and payments confirmed. The style is right; colors perfect, the floor plan outstanding and there are plenty of closets. The cabinetry? All one could possibly hope for. Carpet? Beautiful. Drapes? Ditto. Everything has been planned, everything accounted for, right down to the last 2-by-4... or has it?

What about energy costs? Have monthly energy bills been considered? Have you even

thought about them? Or, sadly, as so often happens, will there be that rude awakening when the mailman brings the first bill which spans a month of hot or cold weather?

Who shall we then blame? To whom can we complain? Whose shoulder would you cry on? How about the power company or the gas company? What about the builder? He did everything exactly as called for by the blueprint. The designer? Plans were drawn to your own satisfaction and approved by you before work ever commenced.

Would you buy a new car without asking about gas mileage? No! But then, that information is printed on the window sticker, right? Even the new appliances you purchase have an energy-cost guide posted on them. Come to think of it, most folks wouldn't even buy a boat and motor without knowing how much it would cost to run the thing!

Well then, why on earth would anyone build or buy something as grand as a house without having some idea of what to expect in the way of energy bills?

That day is long gone when you could plead ignorance with much impunity and in the final analysis, it is the homeowner who is responsible for the energy bills.

But, you say, what can I do? Well, for starters, why not seek the counsel of your utility before you build. Why not let

your house designer and your contractor know, from the outset, that energy conservation is of vital importance to you? Why not demand it!

There are 2,000 sq. ft. homes which consumes less than \$100.00 worth of energy during the hottest month or the coldest month. There are families today who are reaping the benefits of modern, energy-conservation technology. You can too.

Yes, there's lots that can be done:

- If you make the commitment.
- If energy conservation becomes your priority.
- If you plan for it.
- If you investigate and learn proper techniques, proper materials and proper standards for energy-conservation construction.
- If you insist on the most efficient heating and cooling system.
- If the work is carefully and faithfully monitored.

A lot of ifs? Certainly! But, if you put your foot down and if you put your heart into it, you will wind up with a home that consumes only a third or a fourth as much energy as it otherwise might!

Call us before you start to build! We'll be glad to assist and there's no charge for our advice. You have much to gain and nothing to lose. Our number is (800) 762-1400. Tell the switchboard operator you want member services personnel.

Office Closing

SIEC will be closed Monday, Feb. 17, to recognize President's Day.

Southern Illinois
Electric Cooperative

618-827-3555 P.O. Box
100
Dongola, IL 62926

Board of Directors

President	Guy Casper	Johnson County
Vice Pres.	Bob J. Ury	Union County
Sec.-treas.	G. Robert Inman	Pulaski County
	Dale Taake	Pulaski County
	Glenn Tripp	Union County
	Raymond C. Snell	Alexander County
	Richard D. Moss	Alexander County
	David L. Martin	Massac County
	Larry Fisher	Massac County
Manager	Larry Lovell	
Attorney	Ronald E. Osman	
Editor	Carol L. Wilhoit	
Office Manager	Chris L. Bennett	



Area phone outage information

Whom to call — numbers to call —
and schedule of hours

**8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.,
Monday through Saturday**
Call Toll Free (from Southern Illinois)
1-800-762-1400
or Call Dongola Office 618-827-3555

**Calls After Hours Should
Only Concern Outages or Emergencies**

**After 4:00 p.m. through 8:00 a.m.
and Sundays and Holidays**

1-800-762-1400 Dongola office
618-827-3555 Dongola office

Leonard Temke retires

Leonard Temke retired Jan. 2, 1997, after 23 years of cooperative service.

Leonard began his cooperative career in the resale department as a resale appliance technician. In 1987 he went outside as a forestry apprentice. Since that time he advanced to forestry foreman and held that position until retirement.

Temke was born and educated in Ullin, attended the New Hope Grade School through seventh grade and then graduated from Ullin School. He is married to the former Hazel L. Goins of Wetaug. The couple has two daughters, Pamela Crabtree of Huber Heights, Ohio, and Bridget Collins of Jackson, MO; four grandsons ranging in age from 2 to 20 years, and one great-grandson.

Leonard enjoys his church activities and visiting with relatives and friends.

When asked if he had a parting comment, he said, "I would like to say that I really appreciated the years of employment at Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative."



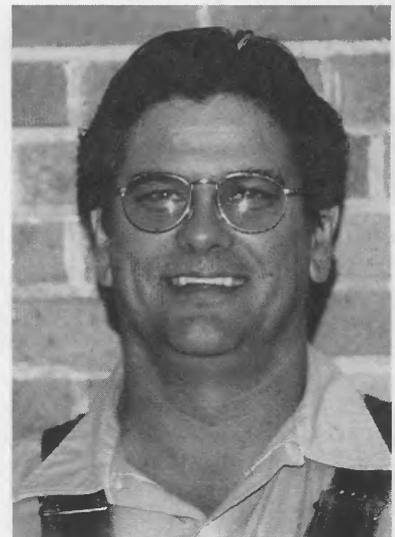
Let's Get Acquainted

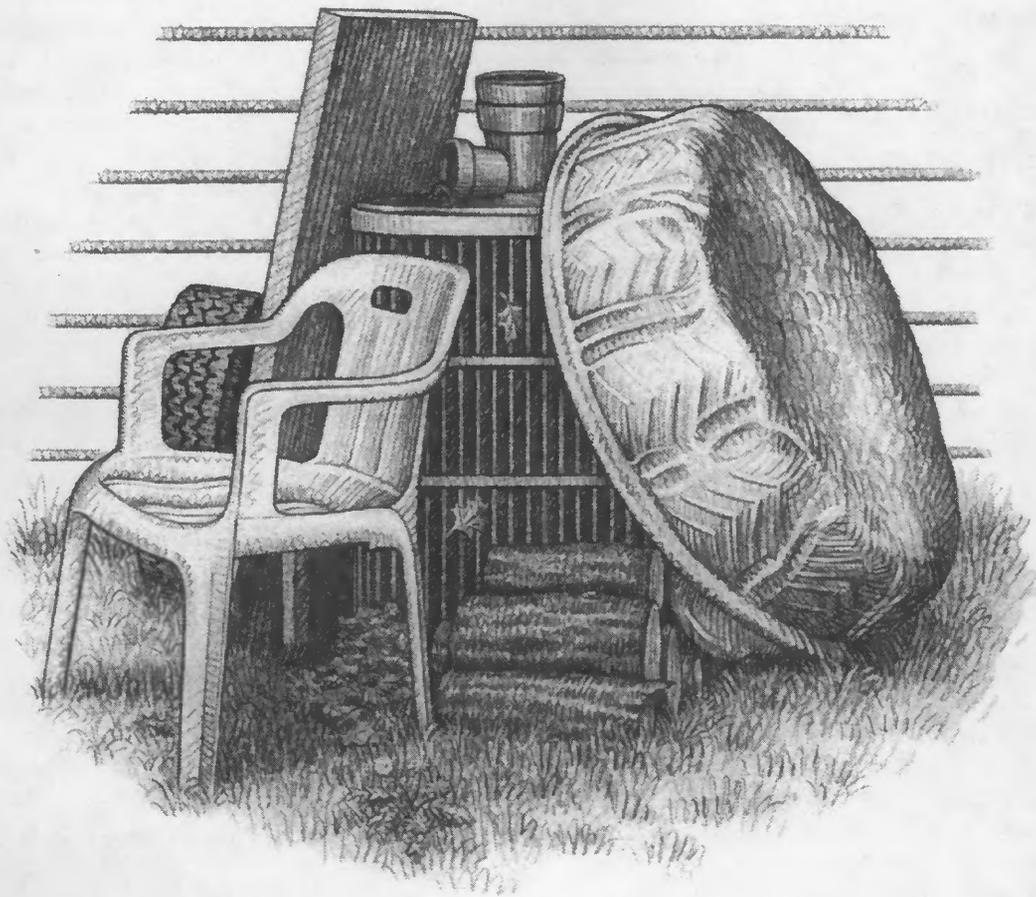
Gary L. Roach, SIEC forestry journeyman, began his career in April 1990 and has progressed through the classifications of janitor and apprentice forestryman.

Roach was born in Anna and attended elementary school there. The family moved to Elgin during the high school years. At the time of his employment, he was self-employed in the drywall business.

He is married to the former Emily Knight of Elgin. The couple have three children: Jeremy, 21; Joshua, 17; and Sara, 6.

Music takes up most of Gary's spare time for he regularly performs with the group "Chosen Heart." The group sings at churches, county fairs and all manner of social functions. For bookings, write to: Chosen Heart, 202 Maple, Anna, IL 62906.





SOMEWHERE UNDER THERE IS A HEAT PUMP GASPING FOR AIR AND WASTING ELECTRICITY.

Heat pumps are usually tucked away out of sight. Which makes that same spot a great place to store a multitude of things. And makes the heat pump into a shelf. That could be a real problem. The heat pump could be damaged. And 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.

Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative
We get our power from You... Our Consumer-Owners.

Member alert Cooperative members are targeted by insurance company



Illinois cooperative members and other rural residents are being contacted by Reserve National Insurance Company, an Oklahoma company licensed to sell insurance in Illinois.

The company literature and advertising materials can be easily misunderstood. The wording mentions "National Association of Rural Co-operative Members."

Reserve National Insurance is not sanctioned by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) or by Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative.

Meter tampering illegal, dangerous

Throughout the nation, many people have come to believe that cheating the power company is okay. Many believe that since you cannot see electricity it is fine to steal it. Some have come up with ingenious ways to reduce the effective registration of the utility meter. Every method is a crime and all are dangerous to the one committing the crime.

The electrical industry is concerned about this problem, not only from the lost revenue standpoint, but from a safety standpoint. The utility meter is designed to be maintained and operated by qualified personnel used to working on energized electric service. There is no disconnect ahead of the meter and any removal of a meter exposes live electrical parts that cannot be disconnected by the general public.

Every meter that measures electric service to a customer is owned by the utility. It is sealed to keep unauthorized persons from removing it. This seal is the same as a door lock on your home, and it is used for the same purpose.

Criminal law places very stiff penalties on meter tampering and current diversion. People fail to realize that meter tampering leaves evidence that is easily seen by qualified personnel.

SIEC is concerned about this trend. We hope this problem doesn't become serious with us. This is a cooperative made up and owned by the members it serves, any current theft is a theft against you and your neighbor. Current thieves, if undetected, add to the cost of doing business. This cost is passed on to the members of the cooperative through their energy bills.

Some of the penalties that the law imposes for power theft are as follows:

	Sentence	Fine
Meter tampering or circumvention	6 months	\$500
Theft of Electricity, less than \$150 in value	1 day	1,000
Second Offence	1-3 years	10,000
Greater than \$150	2-5 years	10,000

Basal spraying of right-of-way

During the winter months, SIEC forestry personnel will apply basal spray to the right-of-way in the Lick Creek Substation area. The chemical is applied to the base of trees and brush six inches in diameter and under, growing under cooperative service lines. This type of application prevents crop damage.

Treating right-of-way growth of this type reduces the number of outages during inclement weather.

1996 annual meeting prizes (additional)

\$25 Cashier's Check

Anna National Bank Anna ----- Michael Severns, Karnak

Lakeland 12" Oscillating fan

Electric Laboratories Mattoon ----- Joe Mason, Thebes

Insta-Furnace

Schoot Electric Distributors

Cape Girardeau, MO ----- Donald Sheffer, Jonesboro

Weedeater Electric Blower

Oil Field Electric West Frankfort ----- John Hoehner, Dongola

Black & Decker Cordless Screwdriver

Oil Field Electric West Frankfort ----- Ocal Mowery, Tamms

1 Year Subscription Tri County Record

Burman Eddleman Dongola ----- Robert Ebersohl, Jonesboro

West Bend Coffeemaker

Edmond's Electric Anna ----- Kenneth Walter, Karnak

Kodak Camera

Oil Field Electric, West Frankfort ----- Gerald Pascal, Brookport

Note: This list of early bird prize winners was omitted from the previous listing.

JAMUP

JOHNSON • ALEXANDER • MASSAC • UNION • PULASKI

published by Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Dongola, Illinois

Retail Wheeling? What is it?

Just what exactly is retail wheeling? Is it a place to buy wheels or hubcaps for your car or truck? Is it what we do when we go shopping from mall to mall? Or perhaps it's a new game show on television. Actually it doesn't even come close to any of the above. Retail wheeling—let's see. A more accurate name might be—electricity dealing.

The definition of retail wheeling (electricity dealing) is the process of allowing any electric utility to provide electrical service to any customer using another electric utility's power lines. What does that mean to you and me? No one is really quite sure. A little history might be appropriate at this time. Right now each electric utility has an assigned area in which it serves. If your home, farm or business falls within this territory you have a designated electric utility service provider. There is no choice—that is the electric utility provider you are stuck with. It appears that retail wheeling got its start when large businesses and manufacturers pressured the federal government for open competition in which they would be able to purchase bulk electricity at the lowest cost possible. This all boils down to profits and the possible deregulation of the electric utility industry.

Some of you will remember that back in the 1930s and 1940s when electric companies refused to serve the rural areas because there was no chance for a profit. That's when electric co-

operatives were born. Today, electric cooperatives still continue to serve the rural communities, as well as the outskirts of expanding urban areas. The expanding urban areas seem to be the target of deregulation. Deregulation of the electric utility industry would allow all electric utilities (cooperatives as well as investor-owned companies) to compete with each other to be your electric service provider. The problem with this lies in several areas:

1. Will all consumers (residential and business) be treated equally?
2. Will all rural areas continue to receive quality electric service?
3. Will all electric utilities be treated equally?
4. Will residential consumers have to foot the savings passed on to the large businesses and manufacturers?
5. What about the safety and reliability of that chosen service provider? Who is going to come out at 3 a.m. when we report a power outage due to a storm? And, how long will it take for someone to be on the job? On a local scale, we have seen and read about a large investor-owned utility closing their local offices and combining them into district offices farther away.

We all want to buy the best possible product at the lowest possible price. In order to get that, sometimes service and reliability fall to the wayside. Past

deregulations have cost us all money at one time or another. The deregulation of the airline industry has meant fare increases, service and safety reductions and the discontinuance of services in some of our towns. Cable television deregulation meant that the average monthly bill saw a hefty increase while there was a decrease in the number of stations local cable companies carried. As for telephone deregulation, we are all reminded every time we sit down to dinner when the phone rings and the voice on the other end wants you to switch long distance carriers. Will we ever get through the dinner hour without a phone interruption from someone trying to woo your telephone service as well as electric service? As it is now, we have enough trouble trying to interpret our phone bill—now, we may have to interpret the electric bill!

The member-owned electric cooperatives throughout the

(Continued on page 16b)

Office closing

The Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative office will be closed Friday, March 28, in observance of Good Friday.



Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

618-827-3555 P.O. Box
100
Dongola, IL 62926

Board of Directors

President	Guy Casper	Johnson County
Vice Pres.	Bob J. Ury	Union County
Sec.-treas.	G. Robert Inman	Pulaski County
	Dale Taake	Pulaski County
	Glenn Tripp	Union County
	Raymond C. Snell	Alexander County
	Richard D. Moss	Alexander County
	David L. Martin	Massac County
	Larry Fisher	Massac County

Manager	Larry Lovell
Attorney	Ronald E. Osman
Editor	Carol L. Wilhoit
Office Manager	Chris L. Bennett



Area phone outage information

Whom to call — numbers to call —
and schedule of hours

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.,
Monday through Saturday
Call Toll Free (from Southern Illinois)
1-800-762-1400
or Call Dongola Office 618-827-3555

Calls After Hours Should
Only Concern Outages or Emergencies

After 4:00 p.m. through 8:00 a.m.
and Sundays and Holidays

1-800-762-1400 Dongola office
618-827-3555 Dongola office

(Continued from page 16a)
nation are fighting for the rural communities they were born to serve. Several states are trying test programs to see how these different changes to the electric utility industry will affect the cooperative members. The cooperatives will not rush into deregulation because a large business might benefit by increasing its profits to stockholders. Instead they want to take every effort to assure the co-op consumer that they will receive the maximum benefit possible from these changes. Your Illinois electric cooperatives have adopted a position on deregulation to guide their legislative efforts and not those of investor-owned utilities. Their

position is as follows:

"Support deregulation/direct access of the electric utility industry so long as such action ensures benefits to all electric cooperatives and their members, and guarantees adequate and reliable service to all present and future members."

There will be a lot of legislative changes made to the electric utility industry in the year ahead.

Whatever changes occur, you can be assured that your local member-owned cooperative remains committed to maintaining a high level of quality service that rural families and businesses have come to expect over the years. You, our members, are our reason for being.

Let's get acquainted

Cindy L. Aden began her cooperative career in August 1990 as general office clerk. Her present classification is billing clerk.

Cindy is a Dongola native and a graduate of Dongola High School with a two-year degree from Shawnee Community College.

She met her husband, Shaun, during high school. Shaun is involved in the construction trade. They have two daughters, Jessica Lynn and Shea Micle.

The Aden household is usually buzzing with activity. Cindy loves to bake and creme horns are one of her most requested pastries. She spends her spare time supporting the children's

activities, working in the church and spending time with special friends.

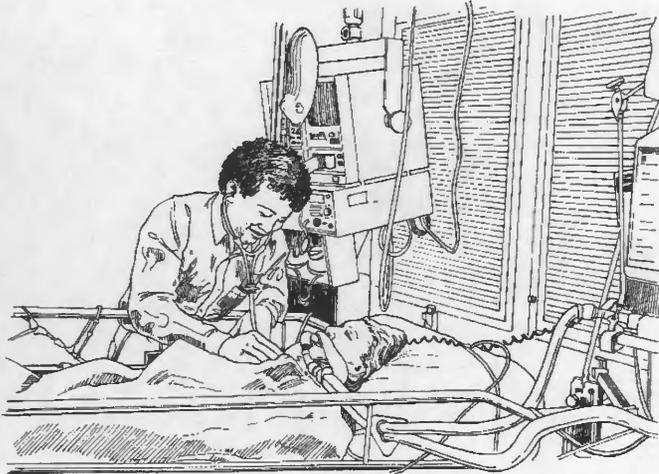


Cindy L. Aden

Co-op WATS line for members
1-800-762-1400

Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

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



While Southern Illinois Electric 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. We keep a registry of members on life-support equipment, and it is important that this information be current and accurate. We will make every effort to give priority to restore service to members on life-support systems.

If you or a member of your family depend on life-support equipment, please fill out the form below and mail to us as quickly as possible.

.....

Name _____

Phone No. _____

Address _____

Account No. _____

Type of support equipment _____

Days of use _____

Time of use _____

Do you have an emergency stand-by generator to operate this equipment?
 Yes No

Mail the above form to:
Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative
P.O. Box 100, Dongola, IL 62926

.....

Statement of Nondiscrimination

Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative is the recipient of Federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and is subject to the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, and the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture which provide that no person in the United States on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, or handicap shall be excluded from participation in, admission or access to, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any of this organization's programs or activities.

The person responsible for coordinating this organization's nondiscrimination compliance efforts is Larry Lovell. Any individual, or specific class of individuals, who feels that this organization has subjected them to discrimination may obtain further information about the statutes and regulations listed above from and/or file a written complaint with this organization; or the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250; or the Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Washington, D.C. 20250. Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discrimination. Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible.

Service restoration priorities

When an outage occurs, restoring electrical power is often a complicated process. Damage done by wind, ice or other bad weather usually occurs at several points on the 2,015 miles of line in our distribution system. The idea is to return power to everyone the most efficient way.

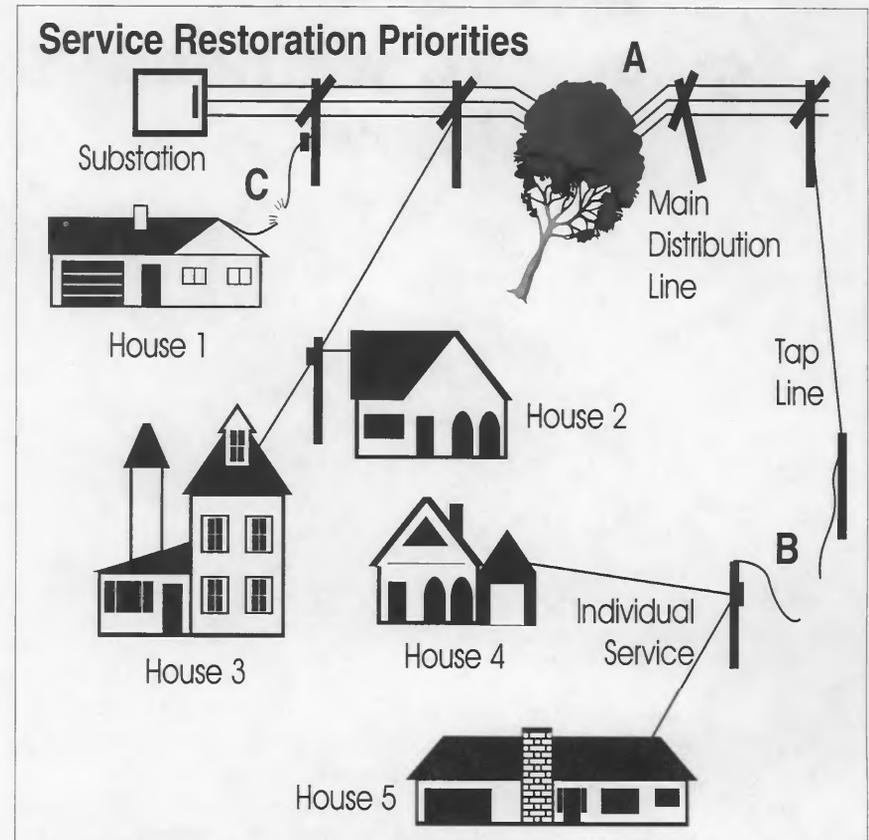
Every utility in the nation practices the same policy when outages occur, to restore power to as many members as possible in the shortest time and then to repair the damage at individual homes and farmsteads.

Some members complain about the length of time it takes us to get them back in service. **How do we prioritize service restoration?**

The accompanying sketch depicts an area downstream from a substation after a storm. **A.** A three-phase feeder line has been put out of service by a fallen tree. **B.** A single-phase tap line that serves two homes is out of service due to a downed wire. **C.** House 1 has snapped service drop. All outages have been reported. Where do we start the repair work and what is the order of priority?

A. Since a tree has taken out the three-phase line along the main road, many more homes than are shown in the drawing are affected by the outage. Crews would be dispatched to the substation to start working their way along this line to repair it and put as many members back in service as quickly as possible. The tree would be removed, wires would be spliced, and the leaning pole would be straightened and the three-phase line would be energized. House 2, House 3 and many houses beyond would have power restored. **Our first priority is met.**

B. The second priority is to restore the single-phase tap line that serves House 4 and House



5. Neither can receive service until the damaged line is re-joined. This could have been done first, but power would not have been available anyway since the main distribution line was down. The line will be spliced, allowing House 4 and House 5 to immediately have power.

C. Crews would then be dispatched to House 1 to repair or replace the service drop.

This scenario is not exact but it does represent the restoration priorities used after major storms by the electric utility industry nationwide—that is, **to reestablish service quickly to as many consumers as possible.** Individual members such as House 1 are usually the last to regain service.

It is important to note that SIEC will make every effort to give priority to members who depend on life-support equipment. Please fill out the life-support registration form printed in

this issue of the JAMUP.

One important factor in restoring service quickly is your help. If you know your wires are down and the reason, or if the transformer has failed or a pole has broken, tell the dispatcher when you phone in the outage. It saves time when we know what and where the problem is.

The majority of unplanned power outages are caused by the weather and at times affect numerous members. Occasionally, an outage will occur at just one meter location. Many times the problem is traced to a blown fuse, tripped breaker, or faulty wiring, belonging to the member.

Before you call in an outage, check your own breakers or fuses and also check to see if your neighbors are out of service. In fairness to all members, the cooperative will assess a charge to the members if any increase in cooperative expense results when the problem is on the members' side of the meter.

JAMUP

JOHNSON • ALEXANDER • MASSAC • UNION • PULASKI

published by Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Dongola, Illinois

1996 in review

Although 1997 is well underway, we thought a review of 1996 would be informative to our members. In brief, 1996 was an excellent year for SIEC both operationally and financially. Our kwh sales increased by approximately 6 million while our power costs to our supplier remained stable. During the year, we had no catastrophic storms causing severe plant damage as we did during 1995's June windstorm and 1993's windstorms and flood damage. As such, our own assessment rates remained stable for 1996 and will do so in 1997.

The cooperative's cost of power for 1996 was \$7,090,375 of our total operating costs of \$12,176,573. The balance of operating costs includes all other costs associated with providing electrical service to our approximately 10,400 members over more than 2,000 miles of line. Such costs included all employee labor, materials and supplies to maintain our plant of over \$33 million, as well as its estimated depreciation for the year of \$1,120,876, interest expense on debt of about \$770,000 and other miscellaneous costs, including taxes. Many think that an electric cooperative is tax exempt, but this applies only to state and federal income taxes. In total, SIEC paid nearly \$1,240,000 in total taxes in 1996 alone.

Our total revenue in 1996 was approximately \$12.6 million, which amounted to about 7.9¢ per kwh sold. Our revenue

less our operating costs resulted in an operating margin of approximately \$435,000 or about .27¢ per kwh sold to our members. As always, all margins in excess of expenses are spread to our members as capital credits and will be returned to them at some point in the future as determined by the board of directors. Presently, capital credits are being refunded on a 20-year basis, meaning 1996's capital credits could be refunded in the

year 2016, just as we refunded 1976's during 1996.

During 1996, our members not only received a capital credit refund of nearly \$367,000, but also a credit on their December electric bills totaling over \$315,000. Both of these returns are illustrative of your board and management's philosophies as "cooperatives" and treating our customers as the member-owners they are.

SCC student awarded SIEC scholarship

Eunice Waddy (pictured) of Villa Ridge has been awarded a \$600 scholarship from the Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative. The scholarship is awarded annually to a Shawnee Community College freshman from within the district, with the number and amount determined by SCC.

Waddy is the daughter of Freddie and Bertha Waddy. She attended Meridian High School, where she graduated in May 1996. Her accomplishments include being a member of the SCC cheerleading team and receiving a church scholarship. She plans to transfer to Southern Illinois University in Carbondale and pursue a career in physical therapy.



Eunice Waddy

The criteria for the SIEC scholarship includes ranking in the top 40 percent of his/her high school graduating class. The individual must also currently reside in a home served by SIEC. The next scholarship Deadline is in the fall. For more information contact the SCC financial aid office at (618) 63402242, ext. 280.

Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

618-827-3555 P.O. Box
100
Dongola, IL 62926

Board of Directors

President	Guy Casper	Johnson County
Vice Pres.	Bob J. Ury	Union County
Sec.-treas.	G. Robert Inman	Pulaski County
	Dale Taake	Pulaski County
	Glenn Tripp	Union County
	Raymond C. Snell	Alexander County
	Richard D. Moss	Alexander County
	David L. Martin	Massac County
	Larry Fisher	Massac County

Manager	Larry Lovell
Attorney	Ronald E. Osman
Editor	Carol L. Wilhoit
Office Manager	Chris L. Bennett



Area phone outage information

Whom to call — numbers to call —
and schedule of hours

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.,
Monday through Saturday
Call Toll Free (from Southern Illinois)
1-800-762-1400
or Call Dongola Office 618-827-3555

Calls After Hours Should
Only Concern Outages or Emergencies

After 4:00 p.m. through 8:00 a.m.
and Sundays and Holidays

1-800-762-1400 Dongola office
618-827-3555 Dongola office

1997 Youth-to-Washington essay contest

Schedule of events

May 17

Essays are delivered to the judges for examination.

April 1

Judges meet at SIEC headquarters to determine the tour winners and runners-up. Serving as judges this year are: Carolyn Holm, Shawnee College English Department; Stephanie Elkin, Southern Illinois Power Cooperative Administration and Finance Department Manager; and Dr. Art Alkman, SIU Professor in the School of Curriculum and Education.

April 2

Winners and runners-up will be notified. Each winning student will be notified by telephone on days that schools are in session or by mail.

April 3

Invitations are mailed to finalists, school teachers, principals and SIEC personnel.

April 17

Essay banquet at Shawnee Community College, Ullin, at 7 p.m.

April 30

Illinois Rural Electric and Telephone Youth Day, Springfield. Miss Southern Illinois Electric of 1996, tour winners and finalists go to the state capitol. Leaving at 4:45 a.m., the students and chaperones hit the road early in order to arrive in Springfield by 9 a.m. The day is spent touring the capital building, meeting legislators, making friends, and sight-seeing. The group returns to the SIEC headquarters at approximately 8:30-9 p.m.

June 13-20

Students load up at 7:45 a.m. to rendezvous in Springfield with the Washington buses. They will be on the move throughout the day and night. In the early a.m. they arrive at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania for a tour of the museum and historic battlefield. They will travel the remainder of the day, arriving in the nation's capitol around 4 p.m.

Washington activities include: Church services at St. Mary's Catholic Church or Christ Church, Alexandria, VA, George Washington's home in Mt. Vernon, VA, Smithsonian Museums, live entertainment at the Ford's Theatre, walking tour of the White House, Washington National Cathedral, the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, Potomac River boat cruise, U.S. Supreme Court, U.S. Capitol Building, luncheons with elected officials, House Gallery, Senate Gallery, Iwo Jima Parade and Pageant, U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial, Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, Vietnam Memorial, Korean Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, and U.S. Memorial Holocaust Museum.

Buses depart at 7 a.m. on Thursday, travel throughout the day and night, arriving in Mt. Vernon at 10 a.m. Friday. The weary travelers are back in their own hometown at approximately 1 p.m.

Another group of young people from the Heartland will have seen the seat of our nation's government. They will have stories to tell.

Let's get acquainted

Steven Hoffman began his cooperative career in August 1990 as janitor. He is currently classified as a forestry journeyman.

Born in California, Hoffman moved to the area in 1974 and graduated from Dongola High School. He is married to the former Meachelle Mosley. The couple have three children: Eric, 17; Erin, 15; and Curtis, 10.

Steve carpenters in his spare time, enjoys racquetball and supports his children's team sports activities.



Steven Hoffman

Farm electrical safety checklist

Service pole and service entrance

- | YES | NO | |
|-----|-----|--|
| ___ | ___ | Do farm family members and all hired farmhands know where and how to disconnect power in the case of an electrical emergency? |
| ___ | ___ | Are disconnects, especially main breakers, regularly turned off and turned back on to ensure free action and good contact? (Manufacturers of circuit breakers claim that they should be opened and reclosed once per month.) |
| ___ | ___ | In case of fire, can the electricity be shut off to that particular building on fire without shutting off electricity to the water pump? |

Animal housing

- | YES | NO | |
|-----|-----|---|
| ___ | ___ | Do animals enter a building or drink at the stock tanks without hesitation? |
| ___ | ___ | Is the water piping (metallic) and service entrances of buildings properly grounded? (NOTE: Check for corrosion of grounding system by animal waste.) |
| ___ | ___ | Is the farmer using an industry-made electric fencer which bears the UL label? |
| ___ | ___ | Are heat lamps in farrowing houses hanging by the cord only? In case of drop, are there guards on the fixture? |
| ___ | ___ | Are the lights enclosed in globes and guards (where required)? |
| ___ | ___ | Is the wiring suitable for wet conditions (because of the humidity created by the animals' respiration)? |
| ___ | ___ | Does all wiring appear to be in good condition and free from damage by rodents? |

Grain-handling equipment

- | YES | NO | |
|-----|-----|---|
| ___ | ___ | Are overhead lines out of the way of augers and winged-type farm equipment? |
| ___ | ___ | Do all motors have correctly sized overcurrent protection? |
| ___ | ___ | If magnetic starters are used, are heater coils of the proper size? |

Machine shed

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

General

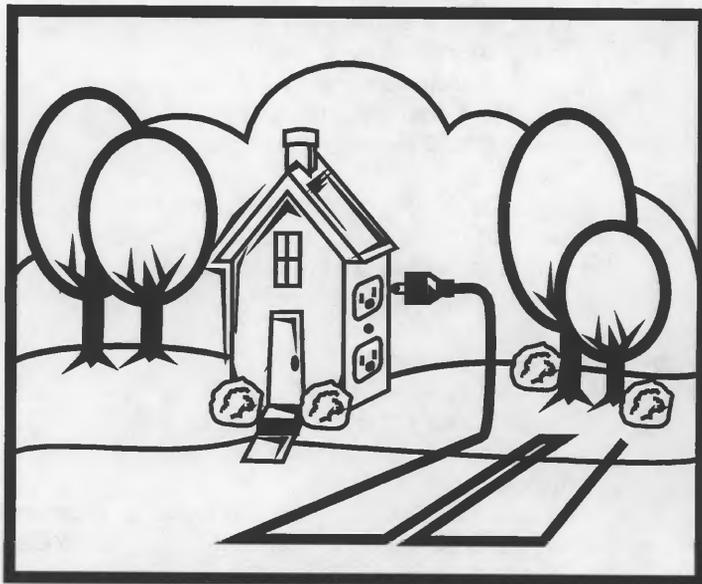
- | YES | NO | |
|-----|-----|---|
| ___ | ___ | Do children know whom to call in case of an electrical emergency? |
| ___ | ___ | Do family members know first aid for electrical shock and/or burns? |
| ___ | ___ | Are GFI's installed where required? |
| ___ | ___ | Do appliances function satisfactorily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

Items checked NO indicate a potential electrical safety hazard. Proper action should be taken immediately to ensure safety.

Geothermal

Heating, cooling, and water heating

SIEC members, now you can get maximum comfort, energy, and cost savings from a system designed to use natural energy from the earth.



Horizontal closed loop

What is a geothermal system?

Geothermal is the safest, most energy-efficient, pollution-free heating and cooling system available. Basically it looks like a normal furnace, but that's where the similarity ends. Because it burns no fossil fuel, it emits no pollutants, thus, no chimney is required. Therefore, it can be installed almost anywhere: in a basement, crawlspace, attic, or closet. Geothermal is a complete home heating system. In the summer, select the cooling mode on the thermostat and the geothermal system is your complete home cooling center. Geothermal can also supply most of your domestic hot water requirements. Customers report savings up to 60 percent heating their homes. Cooling cost reductions of 50 percent are not uncommon with a geothermal system.

**Heat and cool with up to 400%
efficiency**

**SIEC provides a \$400 rebate for
installation of a geothermal
system**

JAMUP

43

JOHNSON • ALEXANDER • MASSAC • UNION • PULASKI

published by Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Dongola, Illinois

Truth vs fiction

(by Glenn English, General Manager of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. This article was excerpted from the Rural Electrification Magazine)

Last month, one of the more unfortunate rituals in American politics played out in the House of Representatives. A powerful congressman, pursuing an ideological agenda cloaked in the guise of public interest, went before the

cameras and misled the American people.



Glenn English

Rep. John Kasich (R-Ohio), the powerful chairman of the House Budget Committee, called for the elimination of the Rural Utilities Service, along with 11 other programs he labels as "corporate." Behind him, shifting uneasily in the harsh glare of the television lights, was arrayed a strange mix of special interest groups that ranged from

environmental groups to conservative think tanks.

The Stop Corporate Welfare Coalition's endorsement of this hit list mocked the people's right to know the whole truth. Members of the coalition could not even agree on what constitutes corporate welfare.

The behind-the-scenes maneuvering that preceded the news conference resulted in removing true corporate welfare from the agenda. Instead, the coalition talked at great length about federal subsidies. Oh, how they wrung their collective hands over the waste and the

(continued on page 16d)

1997 nominating committee to meet June 19

The nominating committee will meet at the cooperative headquarters, Route 51 North of Dongola, at 8 p.m. Thursday, June 19, to consider nominees for election to the board of directors.

Present directors with expiring terms, are David L. Martin, Massac County, G. Robert Inman, Pulaski County, and Glenn Tripp, Union County.

The following committee members were appointed by the board president at SIEC's 1996 annual meeting Aug. 8, 1996:

Alexander County delegate, Richard R. Walker, 1 East Cape Terrace, McClure, IL 62957; and

alternate, Jack Thomas, P.O. Box 68, Miller City, IL 62962.

Johnson County delegate, Patty Allbritten, 6130 Indian Point Road, Belknap, IL 62908; and alternate, Charley Littleton, 4710 West Eden Road, Cypress, IL 62923.

Massac County delegate, Larry Sommer, 4B Westland Drive, Metropolis, IL 62960; and alternate Lynn D. Walquist, 4951 Jonesboro Rd., Karnak, IL 62956.

Pulaski County delegate, Robert Heisner, Route 1 Box 10, Grand Chain, IL 62941; and alternate, George Holhubner, P.O. Box 321, Olmsted, IL 62970.

Union County delegate, P. L.

Parr, Route 1 Box 173, Buncombe, IL 62912; and alternate, Paul Rich, 780 Lingle Creek Road, Jonesboro, IL 62952.

The by-laws of the cooperative provide the nominations to the board of directors may be made by: (1) nominating committee (2) petition received not less than 25 days prior to the actual meeting, signed by 15 or more active members, or (3) an active member from the floor at the annual meeting. The three-year terms of directors are expired alternately so that each year elections are held for a portion of the board.

Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

618-827-3555 P.O. Box
100
Dongola, IL 62926

Board of Directors

President	Guy Casper	Johnson County
Vice Pres.	Bob J. Ury	Union County
Sec.-treas.	G. Robert Inman	Pulaski County
	Dale Taake	Pulaski County
	Glenn Tripp	Union County
	Raymond C. Snell	Alexander County
	Richard D. Moss	Alexander County
	David L. Martin	Massac County
	Larry Fisher	Massac County

Manager	Larry Lovell
Attorney	Ronald E. Osman
Editor	Carol L. Wilhoit
Office Manager	Chris L. Bennett



Area phone outage information

Whom to call — numbers to call —
and schedule of hours

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.,

Monday through Saturday

Call Toll Free (from Southern Illinois)

1-800-762-1400

or Call Dongola Office 618-827-3555

Calls After Hours Should
Only Concern Outages or Emergencies

After 4:00 p.m. through 8:00 a.m.
and Sundays and Holidays

1-800-762-1400 Dongola office
618-827-3555 Dongola office

Let's get acquainted

Charles A. Holtzclaw was employed as janitor in April 1991. Recently he bid and received the position of apprentice forestryman.

Holtzclaw was born in Carmi (White County) and attended school in Galatia. His wife, Mary Joyce, is a native of Millersville, Missouri. She is a secretary on the surgery floor at Southeast Missouri Hospital. The couple has two grown children and two grandchildren.

Charles likes to spend his spare time shining up his car and truck and doing odd jobs around the house for Mary.



Charles A. Holtzclaw

Rural teacher mini-grants available through NREA and NRECA

The National Rural Education Association and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association are joining together to offer ten mini-grants of \$250 each to be expended during the 1997-98 school year for classroom-based projects.

The classroom-based projects are to feature student investigation of some aspect of the science of energy or electricity. Possible project topics might include local geology (as it relates to energy), or the history of hydroelectric generation in your community, or alternative sources of energy for the next generation. The projects should

be limited only by the imagination of the students and resources that are available.

To qualify for a mini-grant, some of the students in the school must live on cooperative lines. To apply, teachers are asked to submit a 1-2 page proposal by June 15, 1997, describing what the classroom will investigate to: Rural Teacher Mini-Grants, c/o NREA Headquarters, 230 Education Bldg., Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523. For more information, call John Freitag or Linda Comstock at the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, (800) 593-2432.



Memorial Day

office closing
Monday,
May 26th

Cathleen Belcher moves to staff assistant

Cathleen Belcher of Anna recently moved to the newly created position of staff assistant. She will assist the general manager and other management personnel on special projects such as SouthWater, Inc.

Cathleen began employment at SIEC in August 1986 as general office clerk. For the past several years she has worked as payroll clerk. She was born and raised in Chicago and earned a business degree at SIU. She is married to Kevin Belcher. The couple share four children: Beth, 18, Laura, 13, Kelly, 15, and Sean, 11.



Cathleen Belcher

Pamela K. Bierstedt assumes new post

Pamela K. Bierstedt began her new duties as payroll clerk during the month of April. She joined the SIEC work force in November of 1995 as general office clerk.

Pam and her husband, Duane, live in rural Jonesboro. He is employed by the railroad. They have one married son.

The responsibilities of payroll clerk include coordinating time sheets with department supervisors and employees, maintaining capital credit accounts and preparing monthly reports and OSHA documents.



Pamela K. Bierstedt

Leonard Temke receives plaque



At the recent monthly safety meeting, Larry Lovell, SIEC general manager, presented a retirement plaque to former employee Leonard Temke, recognizing his years of service and dedication to the cooperative mission.

Southern Illinois Cooperative Youth Conference at SIU-C

SIEC will sponsor two students to participate in the 1997 Southern Illinois Cooperative Youth Conference June 30 and July 1 on the beautiful campus of Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. The conference, co-sponsored each year by the Illinois Cooperative Coordinating Committee and SIUC's College of Agriculture, was a huge success in 1996. It received high marks from participants, parents, and cooperative sponsors.

The conference provides a quality educational experience about cooperatives to high school juniors and seniors. Students participate in workshops on structure, financing, management and careers in cooperatives led by experienced employees of cooperatives. These professionals provide insight into important qualities of all types of cooperatives. In role-playing case studies, participants in the conference become cooperative managers and directors, learning what it is like to "call the shots." Their decisions are guided and evaluated by the cooperative professionals.

The ICCC asked local cooperatives, both electric and telephone, to select one or more outstanding high school students to attend the conference. Participation was limited to 80 statewide. SIEC will sponsor two students who scored high marks on their entry in the 1997 Youth-to-Washington Essay Contest.



(continued from page 16a)

hardship these subsidies impose on the American people. Waste and hardship that pales to insignificance when compared to true corporate welfare.

What they didn't talk about were subsidies that come in the form of tax breaks. The investor-owned utilities (IOUs) receive an annual tax break that costs American taxpayers about \$5 billion a year. Over the years, the value of that tax break has grown to \$76 billion. Compare that to the annual \$60 million subsidy that goes to RUS.

The IOUs collect these taxes from their customers as a part of their utility bills and keep the

money for up to 30 years. It is called deferring taxes. The IOUs can do it legally because it is part of the tax code, and theirs is the only industry in the nation that enjoys this privilege. In the words of the General Accounting Office, a federal agency, this is nothing more than an "interest-free loan."

When is the last time your co-op got an interest-free loan? Even the co-ops eligible for a "hardship" loan pay 5 percent interest.

The problem we have is very simple: Our subsidy, small as it is, can be easily found as a line item in the federal budget, while the subsidies others receive are

hidden in the tax code. Because the tax code is so complex, and so fiercely defended by those who benefit from the tax breaks it provides, it is far easier for the subsidies received by the IOUs to go unnoticed.

That's why I think it is the responsibility of our elected officials to tell the whole story. Instead, Rep. Kasich and his cohorts took the low road: they chose to ignore real corporate welfare and instead attack the easy targets.

If Congress is serious about curtailing corporate welfare it should start by closing tax loopholes.

Learn the four Rs of electrical safety

Each year thousands of people are injured or die from electrical fires and electrocution. An estimated annual average of 155,000 residential electrical fires claim more than 700 lives, cause 6,800 injuries, and result in over \$1 billion in personal property damage each year.

Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative (SIEC), as part of an overall effort to reduce these accidents, has joined forces with the National Electrical Safety Foundation in a public educa-

tion program to raise the awareness of electrical safety.

In May, the National Electrical Safety Foundation kicks off National Electrical Safety Month to remind citizens about the **four Rs** of electrical safety:

- **Respect** the power of electricity.
- **Read** and follow the operating instructions that come with every electrical product.
- **Replace** worn or frayed

electrical cords.

- **Relocate** appliance cords so that grown-ups won't walk on them and children can't pull on them.

You can provide help to the success of National Electrical Safety Month by practicing electrical safety habits.

SIEC is proud to be an integral part of moving this important initiative forward to promote and increase the awareness of electrical safety.

Ground spraying right-of-way

In mid-summer, right-of-way will take place in portions of the SIEC service area. SIEC will ground spray using tank trucks

equipped with sprayers. This type of spraying is necessary to minimize brush density and vegetation under service lines Row

maintenance reduces the number of outages caused by this type of growth.

Co-op WATS line



for members
(800) 762-1400
Monday-Friday,
8 a.m.-4 p.m.



JAMUP

JOHNSON • ALEXANDER • MASSAC • UNION • PULASKI

published by Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Dongola, Illinois

We're main street, not wall street

This is one of two winning essays in the Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative "Youth-to-Washington" essay contest. This essay was written by Eric George, a student at Dongola High School, Dongola.

Over the majestic hills and valleys of rural areas extend the arms of the largest cooperative in America. Its brilliant array of lights illuminates our street corners and windows like a thousand stars in a broad and peaceful sky. Besides its members stand their friends, relatives, and neighbors all working together; united; they work for change, for improvement. And, all know that improvement is not found on the computer screens of Wall Street, but built through the cooperative efforts of its members on Main Street. Striving for electrification of rural America, its members construct the power lines that stretch into our cities and line our roads. This utility improves education, continually finding new ways to support local colleges and schools. And, this cooperative does not base its actions on profits and wealth, but on service to its community. This cooperative is the Rural Electric Cooperative, a collaboration of Americans that can proudly proclaim "We're Main Street, not Wall Street!"

In the 1930's, rural America lived in the drudgery of darkness. Finding prosperity in agricultural endeavors was like trying to find a needle in a haystack. Since rural electrification was absent, many farms became highly dependent upon the services and resources of the neighboring urban areas that

possessed electricity. This restricted the development of the small businesses and industries on Main Street. With this depri-



Eric George

vation, Main Street was desolate and barren. The hardships of continuous labor in the home decreased the amount of family time considerably. No time for swimming, no time for a family picnic—there was work that had to be done!

Today, however, there is prosperity in Rural America. Through the creation of the Rural Electric Cooperative, the brilliant array of street corner lights and illuminated windows now proclaim today's successful rural economy. The unified efforts of the farmer and the rancher help to feed the hungry world with food and fiber. While Wall Street hums with the sounds of big businesses and profit motives, it is the agricultural sci-

ences and small businesses of Main Street that nourish this nation. The continuous, irritable beep of a morning alarm clock and the refreshing aroma of freshly brewed coffee awaken the farmer. His pre-planned day will breathe life into a dead arable landscape. Rural businesses open their doors once again to meet a new generation of Americans that yearn for goods and services. The diversified economic status of rural America has created a land of opportunity that lures families from the polluted suburbs of the city to the desirable and attractive landscapes of an enriched community. But, what characteristics have guaranteed the success of the Rural Electric Utility?

First, the Rural Electric Cooperative is a cooperative among cooperatives. In the destructive shadows of a natural disaster, the local utility can call upon neighboring utilities to help aid victims. Its democratic atmosphere gives life to freedom and equality; one member, one vote. Its open membership sets aside stereotypes and offers employment and service to those of any race, sex, religion, and national origin. Its dedication and concern for the community proudly validate it as a vital part of Main Street. And, the continued recognition of area schools and stu-

(continued on page 16d)

Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

618-827-3555 P.O. Box 100
Dongola, IL 62926

Board of Directors

President	Guy Casper	Johnson County
Vice Pres.	Bob J. Ury	Union County
Sec.-treas.	G. Robert Inman	Pulaski County
	Dale Taake	Pulaski County
	Glenn Tripp	Union County
	Raymond C. Snell	Alexander County
	Richard D. Moss	Alexander County
	David L. Martin	Massac County
	Larry Fisher	Massac County

Manager	Larry Lovell
Attorney	Ronald E. Osman
Editor	Carol L. Wilhoit
Office Manager	Chris L. Bennett



Area phone outage information

Whom to call — numbers to call —
and schedule of hours

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.,

Monday through Saturday

Call Toll Free (from Southern Illinois)

1-800-762-1400

or Call Dongola Office 618-827-3555

Calls After Hours Should
Only Concern Outages or Emergencies

After 4:00 p.m. through 8:00 a.m.
and Sundays and Holidays

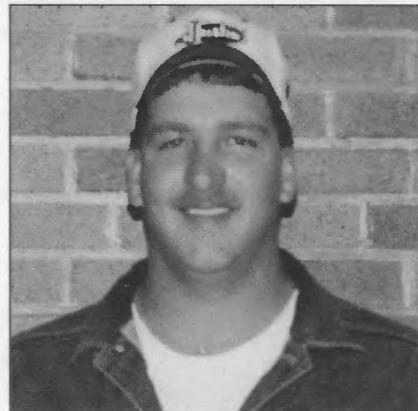
1-800-762-1400	Dongola office
618-827-3555	Dongola office

Let's get acquainted

John Rendleman of Jonesboro joined SIEC in July 1991 as a forestry apprentice. His present classification is forestry journeyman.

He is a lifelong resident of the area and a graduate of Shawnee Community Unit School. He has attended classes at Shawnee Community College.

John is unmarried. In his spare time he enjoys working on the farm, fishing, and hunting.



John Rendleman



SIEC essay judges hard at work, from left: Stephanie Elkin, administration and finance department manager, Southern Illinois Power Cooperative, Marion; Carolyn Holm, English instructor, Shawnee Community College, Ullin; and Dr. Art Aikman, retired professor of the SIU Department of Instruction and Curriculum.

Office closing

The office of
Southern Illinois
Electric Cooperative
will be closed
Friday, July 4,
to observe
Independence Day.





Tour winners and finalists received recognition for their efforts at a banquet April 17 at Shawnee Community College. Shown, from left, are: Jon Hamilton, son of Dean and Norma Hamilton, Karnak; Joey Sickling, son of Rocky and Charlotte Sickling, Ullin; Jennifer Hannan, daughter of Fred and Pamela Hannan, Ullin; Guy Casper, SIEC Board President, Belknap; Sarah Jane Myers, "Miss Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative 1996," daughter of Randall and Linda Myers, Wolf Lake; Eric George, tour winner, son of Larry and Karen George, Dongola; Jennifer Carney, tour winner, daughter of Daniel and Diane Carney, Dongola; Bob Taylor, son of Ronald and Emma Taylor, Dongola; Maeve Wright, daughter of Kurt and Cynthia Pfau, Anna; and Jacob Sloan, son of Sharon K. Chapman, Dongola.

SIEC honors essayists

Winners in the SIEC "Youth-to-Washington" essay contest received recognition during the annual banquet at Shawnee Community College, Ullin, April 17.

Grand prize winners of the expense-paid tour of Washington, D.C. are Eric George, Dongola High School, son of Larry and Karen George, Dongola; and Jennifer Carney, Dongola High School, daughter of Daniel and Diane Carney, Dongola. The runners-up in the contest are Jennifer Hannan, Sherrell Bolden, Katie Reagor, Charity Burchfield, Joey Sickling, Jon Hamilton, and Bret

Green, Century High School; and Maeve Wright, Bob Taylor, and Jacob Sloan, Dongola High School.

Parents, sponsoring school administrators and teachers, essay judges and cooperative personnel were also invited to attend. Sarah Jane Myers, of Wolf Lake, "Miss Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative of 1996," was also present for the festivities.

Judges serving on this year's panel were: Stephanie Elkin, Manager of the Administration and Finance Department at Southern Illinois Power Cooperative; Carolyn Holm, English In-

structor, Shawnee Community College, Ullin; and Dr. Art Aikman, retired professor of the College of Curriculum and Instruction, SIU-Carbondale.

Following the dinner, the two winners presented their essays entitled, "We're Main Street, Not Wall Street."

John Freitag, statewide tour director and vice president of operations at the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, Springfield, narrated a slide presentation of 1996 tour activities.

SIEC board president Guy Casper presented each finalist a Willie Wiredhand Achievement

(continued from page 16a)

Improving outage response time

An orientation was held March 14 at SIEC, Dongola, for the Telephone Answering Service (TAS) employees. TAS, out of Paducah, KY, is the company SIEC has contracted to answer outage calls on weekdays and Saturdays between 4 p.m. and 8 a.m. and 24 hours on Sundays and holidays. TAS is responsible

for dispatching utility servicemen for outages and emergencies. The goal of the meeting was to improve the cooperative's response time and provide better service to members.

Mike Logeman, electrical engineer, conducted the meeting which included utility servicemen and management represen-

tatives. The TAS staff made the acquaintance of cooperative personnel and were briefed on distribution system operation fundamentals. All agreed that the meeting will help to improve SIEC's efficiency in handling outages.

(continued from page 16a)

dents helps benefit local education—a cooperative effort with the community to create a competitive learning atmosphere.

Through the unique endeavors of the Rural Electric Cooperative, we can readily determine its difference from the actions of the large, stock based business. While Wall Street practiced downsizing techniques, this Main Street cooperative fought for the presence of a Tamms prison. Giving rebates for geothermal energy sources and allocating margins in patronage capital, this utility denies any influence of a profit motive. The generous donations to the Salvation Army and the American Red Cross helped those who

were affected by the rising Mississippi River. The imminent health hazards of unsafe drinking water were soon attacked by the proposal of a regional water system through the unified efforts of the Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, the Farmers Home Administration, and many others. Today, in the minds of local members, lies the decision on Internet services for rural America. And finally, with the principles of education, the Rural Electric Cooperative establishes scholarships for area students, donates unselfish contributions to local colleges, and creates intensive workshops for selected high school students. I ask you, what Wall Street business would do the same.

In summary, this vital business that we call the Rural Electric Cooperative continually strives to make life in rural areas truly better. From the darkness of an "Energy Crisis," it arose from the small villages and farm lands of this nation dedicating its existence to its fellow men. It strengthened the family and the nation. Meeting the specific needs of rural America with specific services, the deep concern and dedication is glowing, always reflecting the driving spirit of Main Street. And today, through the arduous effort of a new generation of Americans, it continues to keep its altruistic attitude and needed services while proclaiming, "We're Main Street, Not Wall Street!"

(continued from page 16c)

Award as high commendation for the quality of their essays.

The winners and runners-up participated in "Rural Electric and Telephone Youth Day" in Springfield April 30. Students and chaperones spent the day touring the state capitol, visiting with legislators, and seeing the city's historic sights.

George and Carney will join about 70 tour winners from electric and telephone cooperatives throughout the state, for the June 13-20 tour of Washington.

Member alert

Cooperative members are targeted by insurance company

Illinois cooperative members and other rural residents are being contacted by Reserve National Insurance Company, an Oklahoma company licensed to sell insurance in Illinois.

The company literature and advertising materials can be easily misunderstood. The

wording mentions "National Association of Rural Co-operative Members."

Reserve National Insurance is not sanctioned by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) or by Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative.

Co-op WATS line for members

1-800-762-1400

Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

JAMUP

43

JOHNSON • ALEXANDER • MASSAC • UNION • PULASKI

published by Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Dongola, Illinois

We're main street, not wall street

This is one of two winning essays in the Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative Youth-to-Washington essay contest. This essay was written by Jennifer Carney.

Across rural America glimmering security lights set the night aglow. Today, grass roots America is a land made bright and thriving by the innovative people who created cooperative institutions to improve their lives and to increase the productivity of a nation. They accomplished this feat of bringing light and power to the countryside by joining in a unique partnership with the federal government.

Beginning in 1935, the federal government devised a plan for the rural people to unite and bring power into their lives. They could organize cooperatively, borrow money through the Rural Electrification Administration, construct electric lines and electrify the lives of Main Street Americans. How

these people, in partnership with their government, changed



Jennifer Carney

the future of rural America and the nation is one of the greatest

achievements of the cooperative spirit.

Before the cooperative, less than eleven percent of this country's farms had electric service. Life and work for most rural Americans were fixed in a cycle of hardship and economic sterility. However, profit-seeking power companies were not concerned enough to want to remedy these rural problems. They could see no advantage in running costly electric lines to such sparsely populated areas.

This response from the power companies motivated the rural Americans to provide electric service for themselves. They established the cooperative form of business because it is user owned, and all members share
(Continued on page 16c)

You're Invited

ANNUAL MEETING Shawnee College — Ullin

Tuesday, July 29, 1997

Registration 5 p.m.

Meeting 7 p.m.

Each member registering will receive one \$10 credit on electric bill

Early Bird Prizes

Country Sunrise 6 p.m.-7 p.m.

Business Meeting

Election of directors

Reports of officers

Attendance prizes

Miss SIEC Beauty Pageant

Final Grand Prize—TV

Food & Beverages

Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

618-827-3555 P.O. Box 100
Dongola, IL 62926

Board of Directors

President	Guy Casper	Johnson County
Vice Pres.	Bob J. Ury	Union County
Sec.-treas.	G. Robert Inman	Pulaski County
	Dale Taake	Pulaski County
	Glenn Tripp	Union County
	Raymond C. Snell	Alexander County
	Richard D. Moss	Alexander County
	David L. Martin	Massac County
	Larry Fisher	Massac County

Manager	Larry Lovell
Attorney	Ronald E. Osman
Editor	Carol L. Wilhoit
Office Manager	Chris L. Bennett



Area phone outage information

Whom to call — numbers to call —
and schedule of hours

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.,
Monday through Saturday
Call Toll Free (from Southern Illinois)
1-800-762-1400
or Call Dongola Office 618-827-3555

Calls After Hours Should
Only Concern Outages or Emergencies

After 4:00 p.m. through 8:00 a.m.
and Sundays and Holidays
1-800-762-1400 Dongola office
618-827-3555 Dongola office

Let's get acquainted

Stephanie Dawn Theis came to work at SIEC in March 1997 as general clerk.

Stephanie was born in Elgin, Illinois and grew up in Union County. She is a graduate of Anna Jonesboro Community High School and John A. Logan College with Legal and Executive Secretary Associate of Applied Science Degrees.

She and her husband, Daniel, live in rural Dongola. She likes to help out on the farm in her spare time and enjoys horseback riding, fishing, and playing softball. She is a collector of anything Mickey Mouse.



Stephanie Dawn Theis

Budget billing available

A budget billing payment plan is available to residential consumers of Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative.

Budget billing allows customers to pay a fixed amount for 11 months of each year. In the 12th month, the customer's billing will be adjusted to bring the account up to date. The budget amount each consumer pays will be based on the past 12 months history.

To qualify for budget billing, a customer:

1. must be a residential consumer with a rate classification of 01 or 03.
2. must have been connected for at least one year.
3. must have a good payment record with the cooperative.

Customers wanting to change to budget billing will be allowed to do so at the beginning of any month. If you are interested in changing to budget billing, or if you have questions about budget billing, please contact the office and ask for the billing supervisor.



**Your vote is important.
Please cast
your ballot
at your
Annual Meeting
on July 29, 1997.**

(Continued from page 16a)
evenly in decision making and in benefits. This form of business does not exist to obtain profit, but to provide service, reliable service at affordable cost.

With the electric cooperative came a dramatic change. There was economic growth in the rural areas. Electricity created business activities down Main Streets throughout the communities. New industries brought jobs and rural opportunities. This revitalization spread into the countryside as well with electric conveniences in the homes and barns of the providers of America's food. Finally, rural America could enjoy a diversified economic activity with greater stability and a more enriched social and cultural life. At last, it had become an attractive and desirable place to live, to work, and to rear families.

After more than sixty years, the electric cooperatives continue to be a vital part of their communities. They continue to supply the reliable and affordable service they were destined to provide. Their success is related to the fact that they are not a distant, faceless utility. The people working at the cooperatives, maintaining the service, and sitting on the board of directors are men and women of the communities. They and other members of the cooperative are part owners and share equally in decision making and benefits.

In addition to their good neighbor role, the cooperatives have been changing along with the changing life-styles of their members. Across the nation, these cooperatives have been offering new services from satellite television to guidelines for building an energy efficient home. They have developed special rates to help members better meet the family budget and have worked to bring new industries and jobs to their

areas. Some have even answered the federal call to bring clean water to areas in need. Services differ from cooperative to cooperative, but the goal remains the same—to improve the quality of life for their members.

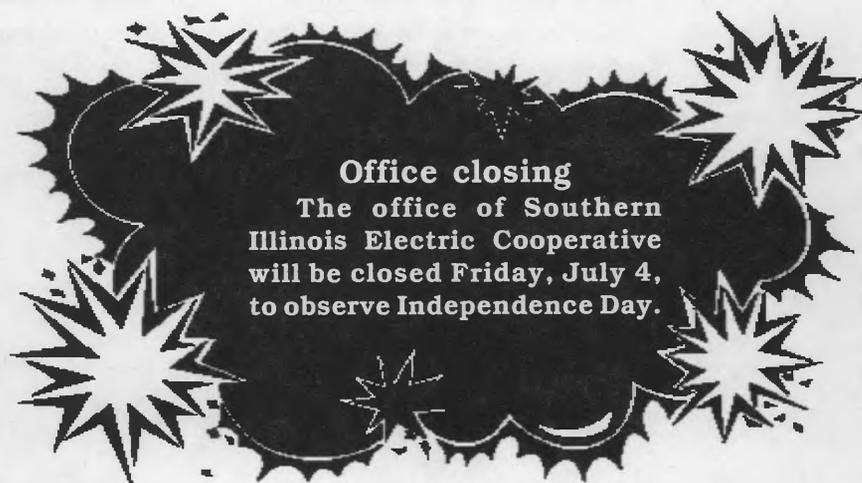
On a more personal level, the Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative demonstrates the diversity and concern displayed by this unique business. SIEC has answered the federal call for clean water and has taken the role of key partner in a new corporation called SouthWater, Inc. This regional water system will provide quality drinking water to the residents of the southernmost counties in Illinois. This system will provide water, which is free of health hazards and more affordable than many small individual water systems. This concern of the SIEC addresses the health issue as well as the economic issue of its service area.

This concern extends to include job opportunities and educational benefits of area residents. Because of the work done by and benefits offered by SIEC, Tamms is now the site of the new super max prison. The area's economy will benefit from the many jobs and cash flow created by this prison. The educational benefits include scholarships for area students, a future fiber optic communication network, and special programs for the youth such

as the trip to Washington, D.C. and a youth conference held at Southern Illinois University. Since the youth represent the future, the cooperative works diligently to ensure that prosperity continues, for knowledge is essential in meeting the constant demands of a changing world.

As a good neighbor meeting the needs of its Main street residents, the SIEC seeks ways to increase consumers' efficiency in heating and cooling. An example is the geothermal system. It is the safest, most energy efficient, pollution-free heating and cooling system available. SIEC has even offered a rebate for those who wish to install a geothermal system. And, what can better portray the humane side of the cooperative than its concern for those in need? When families were devastated by the flooding of the Illinois and Mississippi rivers during the summer of 1993, SIEC donated money to the REC Flood Relief Fund and to the Salvation Army. This is truly neighbors helping neighbors.

Since the 1930's, the electric cooperative has steadily carried on. It has become more than just a supplier of electricity. It is a source of many valuable services and a vital part of our community. Every day, every year, its diversity proclaims loudly and boldly, "I'm Main Street, not Wall Street!"



Miss Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative Beauty pageant rules and entry form

Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative is seeking entrants for the beauty pageant held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the members, July 29, 1997, at Shawnee College, Ullin, IL.

1. Entrant **MUST LIVE IN A HOME SERVED BY SOUTHERN ILLINOIS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**. Contestants must complete and submit the attached affidavit in order to compete in contest.
2. Entrant **MUST BE 16-22 YEARS OF AGE AND NEVER MARRIED**.
3. Previous first place winners are not eligible.
4. Candidates will appear in gowns and one-piece swimsuits (no extreme cuts).

FIRST PRIZE: \$150 cash, trophy, sash, and an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C.

SECOND PRIZE: \$100 cash and a gift. (In the event the First Prize winner cannot go to Washington, the Second Prize winner is given the opportunity).

THIRD PRIZE: \$75 cash and a gift.

CONSOLATION PRIZE: \$50 cash to each non-winner.

MISS CONGENIALITY: Trophy to winner chosen by contestants.



Sarah Jane Myers
Miss Southern Illinois
Electric Cooperative

Contestants will be judged as follows:

INTERVIEW-40%	SWIMSUIT-30%	
EVENING GOWN-30%		
general knowledge-10%	beauty-10%	beauty-10%
achievements-10%	poise-10%	charm-10%
vocabulary-10%	posture-10%	grace-10%
voice-10%		

Beauty Pageant Entry

Residency Affidavit

I agree to abide by the contest rules as set forth and herewith give my permission for the Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative to use my picture and name for any contest publicity.

I further certify that I am a resident in a home served by Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative. (Failure to comply with these rules will void the decision of the judges.)

Print Name _____ Birthdate _____ Age _____

Street/Route _____

City/State/Zip _____ Cust. No. _____

Parents _____ Line Location _____

Sign _____ Phone _____

JAMUP

43

JOHNSON • ALEXANDER • MASSAC • UNION • PULASKI

published by Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Dongola, Illinois

Barbara Pitts elected director

Barbara Pitts was elected to the SIEC board of directors at the annual meeting of the members, July 29, 1997. She was nominated to fill the vacancy created when Glenn Tripp decided to retire at the end of his three-year term.

Barbara and her husband Fred make their home in the Buncombe area and are life-long residents of Union County. The couple have four children, five grandchildren and one step grandchild, all living in this area.

She is a graduate of Anna-Jonesboro Community High School and Southern Illinois University with a major in political science. She recently retired after completing 27 years with the Social Security Administration. The couple has farmed in Union County for almost 40 years. For the last 10, they have



Barbara Pitts

concentrated on cattle, raising only hay and pasture crops. Now she spends the majority of her time working with the family's herd of brood cows.

In 1995, she became a Master Gardener through the University of Illinois. She has given several training sessions on flowers to groups as diverse as pre-schoolers and Home Extension members. She was a 4-H member as a child and has been

a 4-H leader for 25 years. She has served as secretary to the Ebenezer Hall Cemetery Association, Lick Creek, since 1979; is vice-chairman of the Union County Soil and Water Association and member since 1985. She is treasurer of the Land-Use Council No. 15 since 1986; secretary - treasurer of Union County Cattlemen's Association since 1991; secretary of Anna - Jonesboro Garden Club

for 1996-97; member of the Cache River Watershed Resource Planning Committee 1993-96; member of AJMPU Extension Council, secretary 1992-95; and member of the Shawnee Resource and Development Council since 1990. Barbara and Fred are members of the American Tree Farm system and manage their woodlands to protect soil, water and wildlife.

New billing books

New billing books will be mailed in September for your October 1 meter reading. If you have not received the book by October 1, call your cooperative office at 618-827-3555 or 1-800-762-1400.

Please note: If you are on budget billing, you will not receive a book.

Office closed Labor Day

Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative office will be closed Monday, Sept. 1st. Enjoy your holiday!

Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

618-827-3555 P.O. Box
100
Dongola, IL 62926

Board of Directors

President	Guy Casper	Johnson County
Vice Pres.	Bob J. Ury	Union County
Sec.-treas.	G. Robert Inman	Pulaski County
	Dale Taake	Pulaski County
	Barbara Pitts	
	Raymond C. Snell	Alexander County
	Richard D. Moss	Alexander County
	David L. Martin	Massac County
	Larry Fisher	Massac County

Manager	Larry Lovell
Attorney	Ronald E. Osman
Editor	Carol L. Wilhoit
Office Manager	Chris L. Bennett



Area phone outage information

Whom to call — numbers to call —
and schedule of hours

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.,
Monday through Saturday
Call Toll Free (from Southern Illinois)
1-800-762-1400
or Call Dongola Office 618-827-3555

Calls After Hours Should
Only Concern Outages or Emergencies

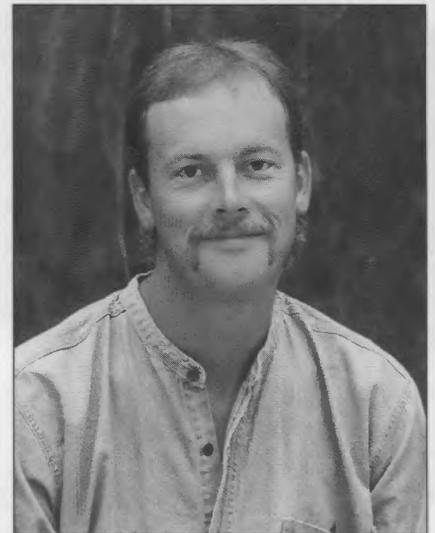
After 4:00 p.m. through 8:00 a.m.
and Sundays and Holidays
1-800-762-1400 Dongola office
618-827-3555 Dongola office

Let's get acquainted

Boyd Blayne Holshouser began employment at SIEC in April 1997 as janitor.

Holshouser is a native and life-long resident of Union County. He is a graduate of Anna-Jonesboro Community High School. His work experience includes eight years as a journeyman tree trimmer for an area contractor.

He is married to the former Tina Miller, of the Lick Creek area. The couple reside on a farm in rural Union County and have acreage enough for four horses. Blayne likes to hunt, fish and work with his horses.



Boyd Blayne Holshouser

Getting to know our employees

Chris Bennett is our office manager and has been with the cooperative since October 1992. He has worked for electric cooperatives for over 22 years. Bennett majored in accounting at the University of Evansville, at Evansville, Ind. He graduated in 1975 with a B.S. degree in business administration and started work as an accountant for Adams Electrical Co-Operative in Camp Point, Illinois (near Quincy). He worked for Adams over 13 years and held the position of office manager when he left their employment in 1988 to become general manager for Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative in Fairfield. He left Wayne-White in 1990 to become general manager for Daffron & Associates, of Bowling Green, Mo. Daffron is a data processing consulting firm specializing in financial applications for electric utilities. His desire to return to Illinois brought him to Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative.

Bennett lives near Goreville with his wife, Debbie, formerly of the Quincy area. They have



Chris Bennett

three children. Gayla is a junior at MacMurray College in Jacksonville, Ill., majoring in deaf education and disability learning. Katie is a sophomore and Andy is a freshman in high school.

Bennett's interests include bass fishing, handguns and bowhunting. He is a volunteer instructor for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Hunter Safety Program and a member of the First Baptist Church of Goreville.

1996 Margins allocated to members

Margins from 1996 in the amount of \$1,128,092.87 have been allocated to members who received electric service from SIEC during 1996. The factor used for the 1996 allocation is .04670465. To calculate your specific allocation, multiply your electric bill (less state taxes) in dollars times the factor above. This is the amount of capital credits earned and credited to your patronage capital account.

For example, if you paid

\$1,000 for electricity during 1996, you would multiply that amount by the factor of .04670465, which would yield a credit to your patronage capital account of \$46.71. This amount is available for refunding in future years when the board of directors determines that financial conditions permit its return. Capital credits have been approved for return for margins earned through 1976, and 1977 capital credits are being refunded in October of this year.

To collect capital credits, the account must be in your name!

Please remember, to receive capital credits you must be a member and have electric service in your name. If your service is in someone else's name, capital credits will be assigned to that person. If your service is in the name of a deceased person, it would be advisable to change the service into your name.



**Farm
Safety
Week is
Sept. 21-27**

More than 30,000 collisions on public roads each year involve agriculture equipment. A motorist driving 50 mph has less than 10 seconds to react to a tractor 400 feet ahead that is traveling 15 mph. Watch for the triangular slow-moving vehicle emblem. Farmers, be sure that faded emblems are replaced, positioned with the point up and clearly visible from the rear.

We urge farmers to renew their commitment to safety, and be extra careful when working around electric lines.



**Electric Cooperatives of
Illinois**
Good for all Illinois

Affirmative action, equal
opportunity employers



Nominating Committee met June 19, attended by the following, from left: Paul Rich, Jonesboro; George Holhubner, Olmsted; Richard Walker, McClure; Jack Thomas, Miller City; P. L. Parr, Buncombe; Patty Allbritten, Belknap; Robert Heisner, Grand Chain; and Larry Sommer, Metropolis.

Abandoned property

Abandoned property as of December 31, 1992, belongs to the following members. Refund checks

issued to each of these members at their last known address were returned.

Joe Lentz, Tamms
 Robert Halliburton, Pulaski
 Donna Kay Fritz, Mounds
 John L. Buskohl, Chester
 Mike Slater, Golconda

Michael Matt, McClure
 Gary R. Wolf, Cobden
 David & Brenda Logsdon, Kansas
 Amos Coleman, Tamms

1996 - 97 uncashed checks

Checks issued to the following were returned because of no forwarding address:

James S. Fly, 1890 Cedar Grove Rd.,
 Buncombe, IL 62912
 Lois Burpo, Route 1 Box 173,
 Chebanse, IL 60922
 Allen Harman, P.O. Box 41,
 Eddyville, KY 42038
 Tony & Pam Thompson, 408 Morgan St.,
 Anna, IL 62906

Charles Keltner, 1275 Hounddog Ridge Road,
 Vienna, IL 62995
 Charles Barfield, 5783 Black Hill Road,
 Belknap, IL 62908
 Issiah Jones, Route 1,
 Pulaski, IL 62976

More than 100 million Americans belong to cooperatives

Cooperatives—not-for-profit, member-owned businesses—comprise an important part of the American economy with annual sales of more than \$100 billion. For example, about 30 percent of farmers' products in the U.S. are marketed through cooperatives. Electric cooperatives provide service to 30 million member-consumers. In fact, more than 100 million Americans belong to more than 47,000 cooperatives in the United States, according to the National Cooperative Business Association (NCBA).

Co-ops are of three types: producer-owned, consumer-owned and worker-owned. Farmers,

producers, or small businesses own producer-owned co-ops. consumer co-ops—electric co-ops, for example—buy and sell services or commodities. In addition to electric co-ops, consumer co-ops may buy and sell food or heating fuel or even operate childcare facilities. Worker-owned co-ops are businesses owned and controlled by their employees; in the U.S. these include food stores, restaurants and taxi cab companies, as well as other examples in both light and heavy industry.

Source: National Cooperative Business Association

JAMUP

JOHNSON • ALEXANDER • MASSAC • UNION • PULASKI

published by Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Dongola, Illinois

Annual meeting highlights

- No rate increase planned.
 - SouthWater expected to expand.
 - Capital credit checks for 1977.
 - Three directors elected to board.
- (see page 16d)



Guy Casper, SIEC board president (left), presented a retirement plaque to Glenn Tripp and his wife Iragene, of Cobden. Tripp retired after serving 37 years as an SIEC director. SIEC thanks Glenn for his dedication, commitment and loyalty to our area and to rural electrification.

“Miss Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative 1997”

Amber Renee Moreland, 17-year old daughter of Shawn and Lorraine Moreland, of Cobden, is the new “Miss Southern.” She received her crown at the annual meeting of cooperative members held at Shawnee Community College, in Ullin, July 29. Her other prizes included a sash, trophy, check for \$150, and an all-expenses-paid week in Washington, D.C. in June 1998.

Amber is a graduate of Cobden High School and plans to attend Southern Illinois University, at Carbondale, to obtain a degree in biology. Her graduate school plans include a major in optometry.

In high school she was active in Beta Club, serving as Illi-

nois president in 1996-97, Science Club, Math Club, and the Gifted Club. She was a cheerleader for seven years, serving as captain, during the 1996-97 season, and played softball for four years. Amber also served on the student council, participated in swing choir and was a Wizard of Oz dancer. Scholastic honors include: Pre-college Research Opportunities in Biomedical Education Scholar 1995, valedictorian, 1996 SIU Outstanding High School English Student, National Honor Roll, Voice of Democracy winner, Who's Who Among American High School Students, and DAR Good Citizen Award.



Amber Renee Moreland

Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

618-827-3555 P.O. Box
100
Dongola, IL 62926

Board of Directors

President	Guy Casper	Johnson County
Vice Pres.	Bob J. Ury	Union County
Sec.-treas.	G. Robert Inman	Pulaski County
	Dale Taake	Pulaski County
	Barbara Pitts	Union County
	Raymond C. Snell	Alexander County
	Richard D. Moss	Alexander County
	David L. Martin	Massac County
	Larry Fisher	Massac County

Manager	Larry Lovell
Attorney	Ronald E. Osman
Editor	Carol L. Wilhoit
Office Manager	Chris L. Bennett



Area phone outage information

Whom to call — numbers to call —
and schedule of hours

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.,
Monday through Saturday
Call Toll Free (from Southern Illinois)
1-800-762-1400
or Call Dongola Office 618-827-3555

Calls After Hours Should
Only Concern Outages or Emergencies

After 4:00 p.m. through 8:00 a.m.
and Sundays and Holidays

1-800-762-1400 Dongola office
618-827-3555 Dongola office



Highlights of SIEC's



First runner-up Sarah Ann Sullivan, 16-year-old daughter of Steve and Bonnie Sullivan, of Anna. Sarah is a senior at Anna-Jonesboro C.H.S. She is a member of the Alpha Club, Outdoor Club, chorus, and concert choir. She enjoys working on old cars and going to drag races.



Second runner-up Patricia Dawn Childers, 18-year-old daughter of Jim and Paula Childers, of Metropolis. Patricia is a member of FFA, the Beta Club, band, the Joppa High School dance team and a softball team captain. She participates on the varsity academic team, WYSE team and Math Team. She plans to attend College of the Ozarks and major in theatre dance.



Sixteen young ladies vied for the title of 1997 "Miss Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative." Shown in evening dress, from left: Amanda Kay Myers, Miss Congeniality, 19-year old daughter of Randall and Linda Myers, of Wolf Lake; Tabitha Thoe, 16-year-old daughter of Kirt and Loretta Dishinger, of Karnak; Mariah Annabel Dale, 16-year-old daughter of Norman and Diane Dale, of Dongola; Amanda McCrite, 17-year-old daughter of Danny McCrite and Barbara McCrite, of Tamms; Lacy Jae Cauble, 16-year-old daughter of John and Donna Cauble, of Dongola; Amber Renee Morland, Miss Southern, 17-year-old daughter of Shawn and Lorraine Moreland, of Cobden; Patricia Dawn Childers, second runner-up, 18-year-old daughter of Jim and Paula Childers, of Metropolis; Sarah Ann Sullivan, first runner-up, 16-year-old daughter of Steve and Bonnie Sullivan, of Anna; Chasity Dawn Adams, 17-year-old daughter of Gene and Susie Adams, of Ullin; Letitia Palmer, 16-year-old daughter of Stan and Carol Palmer, of Jonesboro; Susan Michelle Pearl, 17-year-old daughter of Michael Pearl, of Cobden, and Darla Wright, of Anna; Ginger Shoemaker, 16-year-old daughter of Earl and Dorothy Shoemaker, of Anna; Shelby Rodgers, 16-year-old daughter of Bob and Diana Palmer, of Karnak; Samantha Inman, 17-year-old daughter of Robert and Cheryl Inman, of Grand Chain; Mary Gail Inman, 18-year-old daughter of Robert and Cheryl Inman, of Grand Chain; and Erin Cain, 17-year-old daughter of Kenneth and Amanda Cain, of Tamms.

997 Annual Meeting



Stephanie Rhodes, of Wolf Lake, used a slide presentation to inform the audience about her International 4-H Youth Exchange visit to Germany. Stephanie traveled extensively for six months, living at various locales with farm families and working as a member of the farm work force.



Grand prize winner was Dwain Kaufman of Makanda, who won the 25-inch Zenith stereo television and stand.



Office manager Chris Bennett and janitor Blayne Holshouser are using assistants from the audience to draw names out of the cage.



Pageant judges posing with Southern Illinois beauty queens are: Ark Aikman, representing SIU-Carbondale; Amber Dawn Moreland, of Cobden, Miss SIEC 1997; Dot Chamness, Marion, franchise holder of the Miss Illinois Scholarship pageant; Shawna Thompson, of Carbondale, the reigning "Miss Southern Illinois;" and Ralph Graham, Graham Associates, of Marion.



The musical group "Country Sonrise" entertained the audience prior to the program and while the judges tallied the beauty pageant scores. The group captivated the audience with their enthusiastic performance. Anyone interested in contacting the group may call Steve Martin at (618) 252-7491.

Office closing

The cooperative office will be closed Nov. 11 to honor those Americans who have served their country in the defense of our freedom.



Annual meeting highlights from page 16a

- SIEC does not have a rate increase planned.
- Members who received electric service from SIEC in 1977 will receive capital credit checks in the mail totaling \$240,102.09.
- Manager Lovell says construction of SouthWater is underway and expansions are expected to continue over the next several years.
- During the business meeting, members re-elected Robert Inman, of Grand Chain, David Martin, of Metropolis, and elected Barbara Pitts, of Buncombe, for her first three-year term.

JAMUP

JOHNSON • ALEXANDER • MASSAC • UNION • PULASKI

published by Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Dongola, Illinois

Capital credits refunded

During October, capital credits totaling \$240,100 were mailed to the member/owners of SIEC. The refunds were directed to those persons receiving electricity from the electric cooperative during 1977.

Larry Lovell, general manager/executive vice president of SIEC, reported to the cooperative membership, "We've been able to return nearly \$2 million to the members over the years."

Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative operates on a not-for-profit basis. However, the cooperative needs to have a margin of profit each year to build equity and have some funds available to meet current operating needs. Margins sometimes are used to build new electric lines instead of using borrowed funds, or to set up a reserve fund against emergencies such as storm damage. In addition, the cooperative

must have sufficient margins in order to repay loans from the Rural Utilities Service (RUS formerly REA). In fact, refunds to the members can not be made at all unless the cooperative meets certain financial conditions set by RUS and the National Rural Utility Cooperative Financing Cooperative (CFC).

The return of capital credits represents one of the basic differences between electric cooperatives and investor-owned utilities. Investor-owned utilities pay dividends to their stockholders. But stockholders often live in different states and even in different countries. Electric cooperatives instead refund profits to their members through capital credit checks, and

that money stays in the community.

The cooperative has fairly complete records on the members from 1977, but there are some who have moved and did not leave a forwarding address. Locating those members and others from 1977 may be difficult. Members who received electric service in 1977 and do not receive a check are urged to notify the cooperative at its Dongola headquarters at (618) 827-3555 or (800) 762-1400.



Our offices will be closed Thursday and Friday, Nov. 27 and 28, in observance of Thanksgiving. Enjoy your holiday!

Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

618-827-3555 P.O. Box 100
Dongola, IL 62926

Board of Directors

President	Guy Casper	Johnson County
Vice Pres.	Bob J. Ury	Union County
Sec.-treas.	G. Robert Inman	Pulaski County
	Dale Taake	Pulaski County
	Barbara Pitts	Union County
	Raymond C. Snell	Alexander County
	Richard D. Moss	Alexander County
	David L. Martin	Massac County
	Larry Fisher	Massac County

Manager	Larry Lovell
Attorney	Ronald E. Osman
Editor	Carol L. Wilhoit
Office Manager	Chris L. Bennett



Area phone outage information

Whom to call — numbers to call —
and schedule of hours

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.,

Monday through Saturday

Call Toll Free (from Southern Illinois)

1-800-762-1400

or Call Dongola Office 618-827-3555

Calls After Hours Should

Only Concern Outages or Emergencies

After 4:00 p.m. through 8:00 a.m.

and Sundays and Holidays

1-800-762-1400 Dongola office

618-827-3555 Dongola office

Egyptian School seventh graders receive NRECA/NREA grant

Egyptian School seventh grade teachers recently submitted a grant application and won a Rural Teacher Mini-Grant from a program jointly sponsored by the National Rural Education Association and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. Nancy Kerr, Flossie Leggett, and Idella Kerby, were in competition with more than 60 applicants for the ten \$250 grants.

Any rural K-12 classroom teacher whose school is within a community served by a rural electric cooperative or whose students' homes are served by a rural electric cooperative could apply. The 10 mini-grants are to be expended during the 1997-1998 school year for classroom-based projects.

The Egyptian School teachers' application featured a project of research and computer generated demonstrations on energy and its storage. The research included solar, wind, water, fossil, biomass, and nuclear energies, their storage, and future energy usage.

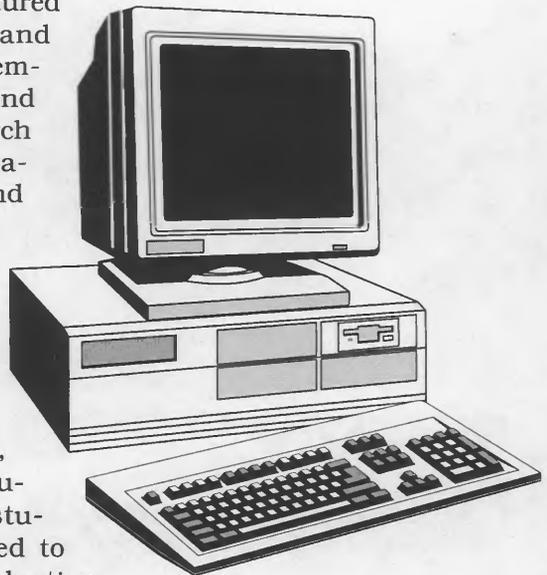
Seventh grade students are to use the computer software to present research to other students, teachers, parents, and the community. In the process, students will be introduced to careers in energy production

and challenged to develop skills in multimedia presentations.

The teachers described research methods, such as surfing the World Wide Web for information, using e-mail to gain information from energy producers, and interviewing individual community members about energy production and storage.

Teacher Nancy Kerr, in her thank you letter, stated that the money was already being used for supplies needed in three classrooms.

Thanks to the efforts of three dedicated rural school teachers, the seventh graders at Egyptian School will be able to gain experience with the very latest information gathering and presentation technology.



1996-97 uncashed checks

Checks issued to the following were returned because of no forwarding address:

Darrell E. Riley, 7625 Unionville Road, Brookport, IL 62910

Kent & Tannette Staples, 6982 Unionville Road, Brookport, IL 62910

Low income Energy Assistance Program

Shawnee Development Council, Inc. began accepting applications for energy assistance Oct. 1, 1997, for senior citizens (60 years and older), handicapped persons and households who have been disconnected from their current energy source.

Persons wishing to apply should contact the Shawnee Development Council Outreach office in their county for an appointment. Please call your county office to make these appointments and to get other information that may be needed.

LIHEAP FY97 will again this year have very limited funds for the Emergency Service assistance. You may also inquire about the Emergency Furnace assistance when you go to apply for Energy. Homeowners ONLY may apply for the Emergency Furnace program.

When applying for assistance, you will need to take the following documentation with you to the county office:

- Social Security cards of all household members 16 years of age and older.
- Proof of all household income for the 30 days prior to the application date.
- Your most current heating and electric bills.
- Disconnected households must have proof service has been disconnected and proof of all payments made to the fuel and electric vendors for the 90 days prior to the date of the application.

Other persons interested in applying for emergency assistance may do so starting Nov. 3, 1997. Again, appointments may be obtained by contacting the local Shawnee Development Council office in the county that you reside in.

Where to apply:

Alexander County: Shawnee Development Council
Doris Jennings, county coordinator
P. O. Box 842, Cairo, IL 62914
Telephone: (618) 734-0535

Hardin County: Shawnee Development Council
Kathy Robinson, county coordinator
P. O. Box 168, Elizabethtown, IL 62931
Telephone: (618) 287-7071

Johnson County: Shawnee Development Council
Thurleen Bain, county coordinator
P. O. Box 655, Vienna, IL 62995
Telephone: (618) 658-6131

Massac County: Shawnee Development Council
Gayle Barnhill, county coordinator
1 Superman Square, Room 3B, Metropolis, IL 62960
Telephone: (618) 524-2941

Pope County: (Contact Hardin county coordinator)
Shawnee Development Council
Kathy Robinson, county coordinator
P.O. Box 168, Elizabethtown, IL 62931
Telephone: (618) 287-7071

Pulaski County: Shawnee Development Council
Shirley Hughes, county coordinator
112 1st Street, Mounds, IL 62964
Telephone: (618) 745-6388

Union County: Shawnee Development Council
Paula Marks, county coordinator
Choate Developmental Center
1000 N. Main St., Anna, IL 62906
Telephone: (618) 833-7431

IEC Memorial Scholarship Fund

The Illinois Electric Cooperatives Memorial Scholarship Fund established by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC), Springfield, Illinois, offers two \$1,000 scholarships each year to high school seniors. The AIEC board of directors created this memorial fund in January 1994, to honor deceased members of the electric cooperative family throughout Illinois.

Winners are required to use the scholarship to pay educational costs. They must plan full-time enrollment (at least 12 credit hours) at an accredited two-year or four-year college, university, or vocational/technical school in Illinois, and begin undergraduate studies within a year of being notified they have won.

Scholarships are divided into two categories and the applicant is eligible for only one of the two categories:

- Sons or daughters of members/consumers: Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative (SIEC) will evaluate all entries and submit the best application to the IEC Memorial Scholarship Committee for judging.

- Sons or daughters of employees/directors: All applications will be forwarded directly to the IEC Me-

morial Scholarship Committee for judging.

Scholarships are awarded on grade point average, college entrance test scores, work experience, volunteer service, participation in school and community activities, biographical statement and knowledge of electric cooperatives as demonstrated by a short essay.

The scholarship committee will review all applicants and select the semifinalists. The Northern Illinois University scholarship selection committee will select the winner in each category based on criteria supplied by the IEC Memorial Scholarship Committee.

Deadline for receipt of completed applications and submissions is Jan. 1. Scholarship winners will be notified by May 1. Scholarships are for one year and are not renewable.

If you have questions concerning the scholarship fund or would like to make a tax-deductible donation, call Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative at (800) 762-1400 or contact Don Wood at the AIEC in Springfield, phone (217) 529-5561.

1997 door prizes • Annual meeting July 29, 1997

Prize and winner

Wagner Power Paint Roller
Patricia Ann Stroud, Karnak

Zebco Fishing Rod & Reel
Henry P. Schnaare, Karnak

1-Yr. Subscription
Leonard H. Statemeyer, Belknap

\$20 Gift Certificate-Holman House
Danny McCrite, Tamms

Southwestern Bell Cordless Telephone
Imogene Closser, Dongola

Rival Can Opener
Doris Weaver, Karnak

Pentel Stainless Steel Pen & Pencil
Louise M. Eastwood, Karnak

Golf Umbrella, Coffe Mug & Stress Ball
Lela Casper, Anna

Sony Cordless Telephone
John R. Moreland, Cobden

\$25 Cashier's Check
Josie Minor, Karnak

Sunbeam 6-Speed Blender
Brenda C. Vick, Tamms

6-Qt. Oil Change & Lube
Dorris L. Barnhart, Jonesboro

Two Folding Lawn Chairs
Gilbert Eddleman, Dongola

Rival 3.5 Qt. Crock Pot
Robert A. Davis, Dongola

1-Yr. Subscription
Gerald Paschal, Brookport

Hamilton Beach, Hand Mixer
Pamela S. Eaton, Metropolis

Rubbermaid Pro-Series Tackle Box
Robert E. Heisner, Grand Chain

Five Qt. Lube/Oil/Filter Change
Charles W. Harvel, Tamms

Buck Swiss Pocket Knife
Carl R. Horn, Grand Chain

Golf Umbrella, Coffee Mug, Stress Ball
Scott H. Childress, Belknap

Elecralite Lighthouse Electric Weedeater
Raymond M. Miller, Ullin

\$10 Gas Certificate & Stress Ball
Jimmie Courtright, Jonesboro

Presto Fry Daddy
Jerry D. Carter, Buncombe

CD's & Tapes, Stihl Cap
& Gift Certificate
Perry W. Williams, Dongola

Road Power Booster Cable
w/Storage Bag
James M. Larry, Jr., Villa Ridge

Back Pack Sprayer
Charles W. Harvel, Tamms

Coleman 54-Qt. Cooler
Wayne A. Ledbetter, Tamms

Sony AM/FM Walkman
Louise Mathis, Karnak

Wet/Dry Vac
Mary L. Little, Karnak

Black & Decker Cordless Screwdriver
Inman Farms, Grand Chain

2 Coffee Mugs, Stress Ball & Pen
Relis L. Oliver, Belknap

Donor

Brownstown Electric Supply
Brownstown, Indiana

Daffron & Associates
Bowling Green, MO

Gazette Democrat
Anna

TAS Telephone Answering Service
Paducah

Ledbetter Toth & Assoc.
Springfield, MO

Edmond's Electric
Anna

Stiles Office Equipment
Carbondale

First Cellular
Anna

SIEC
Dongola

Anna National Bank
Anna

Electric Laboratories & Sales
Mattoon

Union County Motors
Anna

Oil Field Electric & Tree Trimming
West Frankfort

Oil Field Electric & Tree Trimming
West Frankfort

Dongola Tri-County Record
Dongola

Edmonds Electric
Anna

Oil Field Electric & Tree Trimming
West Frankfort

Raben Tire Company
Marion

Oil Field Electric & Tree Trimming
West Frankfort

First Cellular
Anna

SIEC
Dongola

First Cellular, Anna
Corzine's Service Station, Dongola

Oil Field Electric & Tree Trimming
West Frankfort

WMOK, Metropolis
McCarver's Repair, Anna

Oil Field Electric & Tree Trimming
West Frankfort

Terra International
Mt. Vernon

Oil Field Electric & Tree Trimming
West Frankfort

Oil Field Electric & Tree Trimming
West Frankfort

Belcher Electric
Anna

Oil Field Electric & Tree Trimming
West Frankfort

First Cellular
Anna

Prize and winner

Black & Decker Snake Light
First Baptist Church, Olmsted

Regent Halogen Worklight
Gerald P. Thurston, Pulaski

Better Homes & Gardens Hose Reel
Thomas Farms, Miller City

Popular Mechanics Tool Box/Organizer
Donald W. Rich, Anna

Krypta Floating Flashlight/Lantern
& Ball
Donald E. Riley, Karnak

Conair Hair Dryer
Loren H. Smith, Grand Tower

Rival Ice Cream & Yogurt Freezer
Kevin Barrett, Olive Branch

3' x 4' Entrance Mat
Owen E. Evers, Cypress

Hamilton Beach Electric Knife
R. Shawn Moreland, Cobden

\$25 Cashier's Check
Clyde L. Douglas, Karnak

2 Coffee Mugs, Stress Ball & Pen
Anna B. Thompson, Grand Chain

52 Week Subscription
Grady U. Sappington, Mill Creek

Lasko 16" Oscillating Table Top Fan
Louis Bayless, Grand Chain

22-Piece Screwdriver Set
Ray A. Stewart, Metroplis

Aiwa CD/Boom Box
Richard Rottmann, Metropolis

Atlantic Air 42" Ceiling Fan
Carletus D. Lathan, Unity

Little Pal Portable Charcoal Grill
Earl Shoemaker, Anna

2-Yr. Gift Subscription
Truseal H. Kean, Belknap

Air Express Inflator w/Safety Light
Lester W. Temke, Karnak

Toastmaster 2-Slot Toaster
Anderson Church, Karnak

2 Coffee Mugs, Stress Ball & Pen
Darrell Larry, Olmsted

Lasko 12" Oscillating Fan
Paul Reed, Karnak

GE Compact AM/FM Clock Radio
Ethelle Meyers, Karnak

Security Light
Rusty W. Blanchard, Grand Chain

AM/FM Clock Radio
Beverly Y. Pullett, Pulaski

Mr. Coffee 12-Cup Automatic Coffemaker
Robert R. Quint, Belknap

Better Homes & Gardens Sprayer
Mike T. Evers, Belknap

2 Coffee Mugs, Stree Ball & Pen
Dennis L. Kinser, Metropolis

Popular Mechanics 41 Piece Socket Set
Ervin H. Logeman, Metropolis

Proctor-Silex Bagel Bagel Toaster
Betty Jane McDermott, Mill Creek

Donor

Oil Field Electric & Tree Trimming
West Frankfort

Oil Field Electric & Tree Trimming
West Frankfort

SIEC
Dongola

Oil Field Electric & Tree Trimming
West Frankfort

American Safety Utility Corp.,
Shelby, NC
First Cellular, Anna

Oil Field Electric & Tree Trimming
West Frankfort

Oil Field Electric & Tree Trimming
West Frankfort

Cape Janitorial Supply
Cape Girardeau, MO

Oil Field Electric & Tree Trimming
West Frankfort

Anna National Bank
Anna

First Cellular
Anna

Gazette Democrat
Anna

Oil Field Electric & Tree Trimming
West Frankfort

Jim Wilson Co.
Cape Girardeau, MO

North Pacific Lumber
St. Louis, MO

United Utility Supply
Louisville, KY

Oil Field Electric & Tree Trimming
West Frankfort

Pulaski Enterprise
Mounds

Oil Field Electric & Tree Trimming
West Frankfort

Oil Field Electric & Tree Trimming
West Frankfort

First Cellular
Anna

Fletcher-Reinhardt
St. Louis, MO

GS Hevi-Duty Electric
Atlanta, GA

WESCO Distribution, Inc.
Chicago

Oil Field Electric & Tree Trimming
West Frankfort

Oil Field Electric & Tree Trimming
West Frankfort

Oil Field Electric & Tree Trimming
West Frankfort

First Cellular
Anna

Oil Field Electric & Tree Trimming
West Frankfort

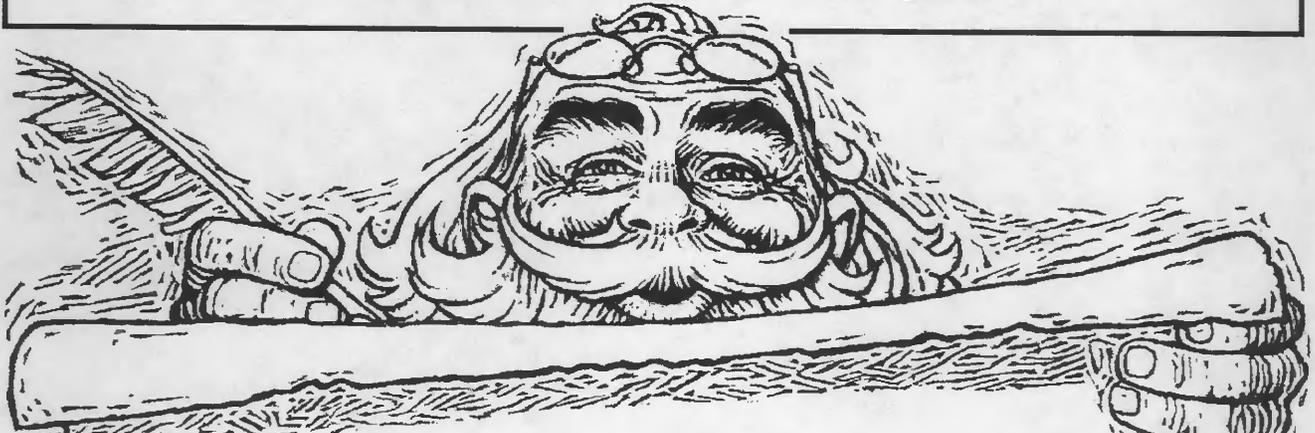
Diversified Electric Supply Co.
Little Rock, AR

Grand prize winner
25" Color Zenith Television with Remote Control & Stand
SIEC, Dongola
Dwain S. Kaufman, Makanda

JAMUP

JOHNSON • ALEXANDER • MASSAC • UNION • PULASKI

published by Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Dongola, Illinois



Season's Greetings

Directors

Guy Casper, president
Bob J. Ury, vice president
G. Robert Inman, secretary-treasurer
C. Larry Fisher
David L. Martin

Richard D. Moss
Barbara Pitts
Raymond C. Snell
Dale E. Taake

Employees

Larry Lovell, general manager
Cathleen Belcher
Chris L. Bennett
Christopher S. Boyd
Ken Corzine
Carl D. George
Michael L. Logeman
Ron Medlin
Carol L. Wilhoit
R. Dennis Abercrombie
Roger D. Acuff
Cindy L. Aden
M. Dare Aden

Pamela K. Bierstedt
Sam A. Brown
Barry E. Clark
Enloe A. Clemons
J. Perry Dailey
Teddy L. Earnhart
Janet P. Eddleman
Bobbie D. Fisher
Terry L. Grissom
Leslie A. Harvel
Steven C. Hoffman
B. Blayne Holshouser
Charles Holtzclaw
Lamar L. Houston

Larry Joe Keller
Linda Keller
Thomas H. Keller
Pamela Lentz
Larry R. Lingle
A. Loraine McGee
Donald E. Martin
LaRue D. Parr
Robin J. Ramage
John D. Rendleman
Betty L. Reynolds
Sam P. Rider
Gary L. Roach
Stephanie D. Theis
Stanley J. Treat
Michael Williams

Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

618-827-3555 P.O. Box 100
Dongola, IL 62926

Board of Directors

President	Guy Casper	Johnson County
Vice Pres.	Bob J. Ury	Union County
Sec.-treas.	G. Robert Inman	Pulaski County
	Dale Taake	Pulaski County
	Barbara Pitts	Union County
	Raymond C. Snell	Alexander County
	Richard D. Moss	Alexander County
	David L. Martin	Massac County
	Larry Fisher	Massac County

Manager	Larry Lovell
Attorney	Ronald E. Osman
Editor	Carol L. Wilhoit
Office Manager	Chris L. Bennett



Area phone outage information

Whom to call — numbers to call —
and schedule of hours

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.,

Monday through Saturday

Call Toll Free (from Southern Illinois)

1-800-762-1400

or Call Dongola Office 618-827-3555

Calls After Hours Should

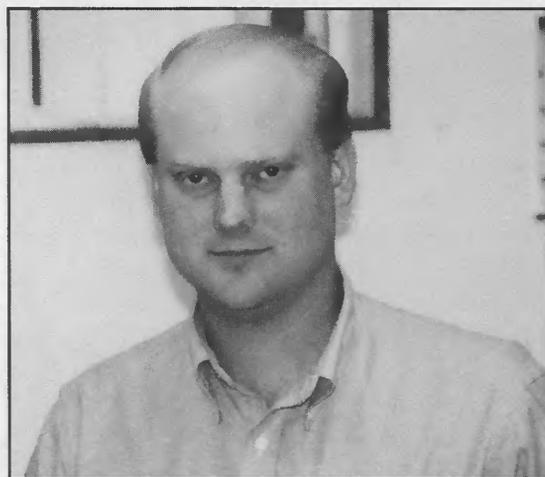
Only Concern Outages or Emergencies

**After 4:00 p.m. through 8:00 a.m.
and Sundays and Holidays**

1-800-762-1400	Dongola office
618-827-3555	Dongola office

Let's get acquainted

Michael (Mike) L. Logeman, came to work at SIEC in January 1993. Some of Mike's duties include projects such as circuit and sectionalizing studies, construction work plans, power quality investigation and analysis, and computer-aided mapping. Mike also is involved with regulatory compliance issues, and oversees the cooperative's safety program.



Mike Logeman

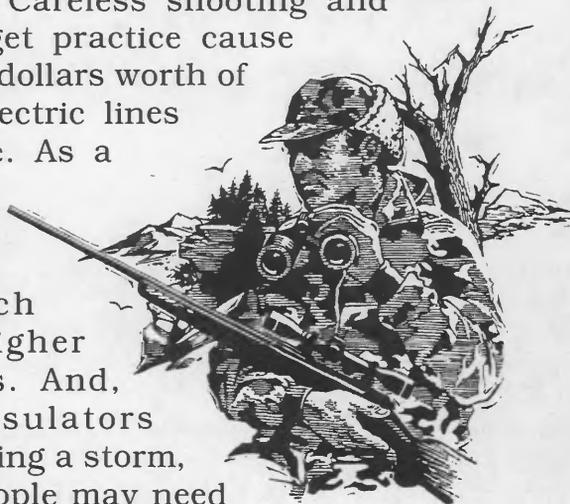
Cooperative Scholarship.

Mike is a native of Massac County and a graduate of Massac County High School. He received a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale in 1992. He was the first recipient of the Southern Illinois Power

Logeman is the son of Truman and Liz Logeman of Metropolis. He resides in rural Massac County where he is a member of St. John's Lutheran Church. Some of his interests include cycling and working on his parent's grain and livestock farm.

Hunters, young or old You're playing with death. . .

. . .when you shoot in the direction of an electric line. Careless shooting and wrongful target practice cause thousands of dollars worth of damage to electric lines and hardware. As a cooperative, the members must pay the costs, which result in higher electric bills. And, damaged insulators could fall during a storm, just when people may need electricity the most.





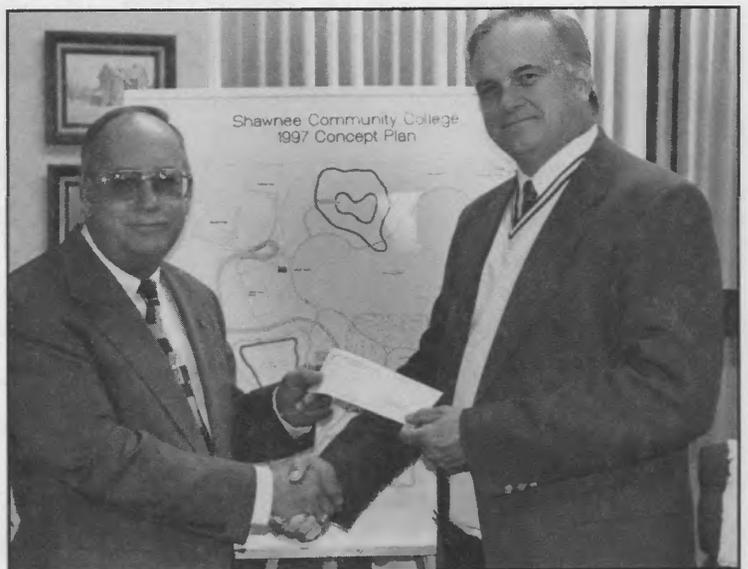
SIEC board of directors

Immediately following the SIEC annual meeting, the board of directors met to elect officers. Officers for 1997-98 are, front row, from left: secretary-treasurer G. Robert Inman, Pulaski County; Raymond C. Snell, Alexander County; president Guy Casper, Johnson County; and Barbara Pitts, Union County. Back row, from left: general manager and executive vice president Larry Lovell; Larry Fisher, Massac County; Richard D. Moss, Alexander County, vice president Bob Ury, Union County; Dale E. Taake, Pulaski County; David L. Martin, Massac County; and attorney Ronald E. Osman, Marion. Martin, Inman and Pitts were elected to three-year terms at the meeting.

Scholarship donated to Shawnee College

Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative recently donated its annual scholarship to the Shawnee Community College Foundation. The scholarship is available to entering freshmen in the top 40 percent of their graduating class who live in a home served by SIEC.

The scholarship amount varies. The deadline for application was mid November. For more information about the scholarship or other financial aid at SCC, call the financial aid service office at (618) 634-9411.



SIEC's Ron Medlin, left, presents SCC president Terry Ludwig with the cooperative scholarship contribution.

Don't lock out your cooperative

Many members need to keep their property secure from unwanted intruders, so they have locks on their gates. But SIEC needs access to our electric lines and metering equipment in order to maintain and operate the system.

For instance cooperative personnel may need access to read the meter. Or personnel may need access to lines in an outage or for other maintenance

work.

Locked gates pose no problem when a "cooperative lock" is installed between your padlock and a link in the chain.

Only authorized cooperative personnel have keys to these locks. Employees are diligent in locking the gate when they leave so your property remains secure.

If you are one of the few who have a chained gate without a cooperative lock, we urge

you to call and authorize installation of a cooperative lock. There is no charge or inconvenience to you.

Cooperative access to the electric lines on your property is important for quality service especially in emergencies. Call the member service department for more details at (618) 827-3555 or toll free (800) 762-1400.

SIEC employees attend hot line school

SIEC employees Bob Fisher and Sam Rider attended the Hot Line Maintenance School at Lincoln Land Community College in Springfield during October. Fisher and Rider trained in underground distribution.

The Hot Line School is an annual training event coordinated by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives Job Training and Safety Department of Springfield. Cooperative personnel, and supplier, manufacturer and vendor representatives lead the discussion and instruction.

The classes in first-, second- and third-year distribution, underground distribution and rubber gloving techniques were taught in week-long segments. This year the school ran from Sept. 15-Oct. 17.

Electric cooperatives, locally owned by the members they serve, maintain more than half the electric distribution network in Illinois. Our employees un-



Linemen from Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative sharpened their underground splicing and cable termination skills at a Hot Line School hosted Oct. 13-17 by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives. The school, which was held on the campus of Lincoln Land Community College in Springfield, also offered courses in cable tracing, fault locating, and troubleshooting. Participants included (left-right) Bob Fisher and Sam Rider. Also pictured is instructor Dave White.

derstand how vital electric service is to the well-being of farms, homes and businesses along our lines. Understanding

new techniques will enable our employees to improve their performance and provide better service.

Office closing notice

The Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative office will be closed Thursday, Dec. 25, to celebrate the Christmas Holiday, and Thursday, Jan. 1 to celebrate the new year.