

# JAMMUP

published by Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Dongola, Illinois

Your Touchstone Energy Partner 

## Youth to Washington Attention High School Juniors!

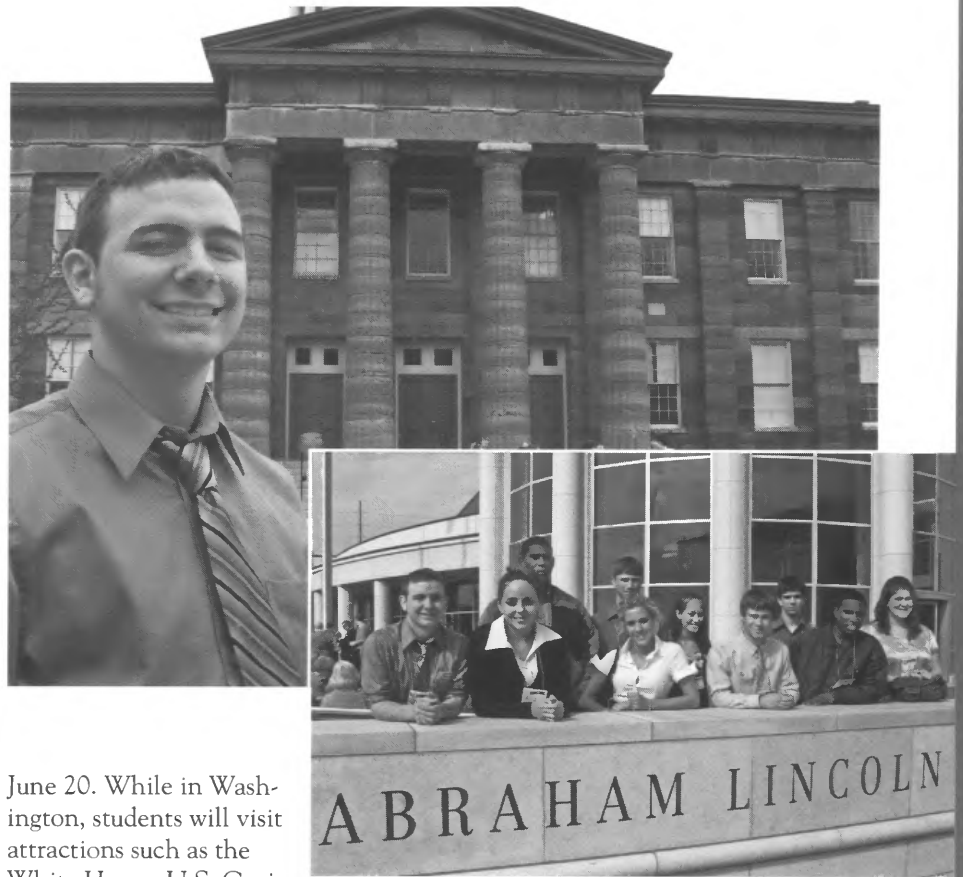
Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative will again sponsor area juniors to Youth Day in Springfield on April 9, sponsored by SIEC and the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives. Of the 11 students representing the co-op in April, two will be selected to go on an all-expense paid tour of Washington, D.C. in June 2008. Students do not have to be sons or daughters of SIEC members. We have opened this up to all juniors and will select one winner from each high school. Area guidance counselors will have the necessary information regarding this educational experience of a lifetime.

### Youth to Springfield

The day's activities in Springfield will include touring the state capitol complex and the new Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, and visiting with legislators with other students from throughout the state.

### Youth to Washington

The two local winners will join some 50 other Illinois students, sponsored by Illinois cooperatives, at Springfield on June 13. They will travel on charter buses to Washington, D.C. and return to Springfield



June 20. While in Washington, students will visit attractions such as the White House, U.S. Capitol, Smithsonian Institution, Arlington National Cemetery, Lincoln Memorial and many other national monuments and places of interest.

David Prater

If you are a junior and this opportunity interests you, please

discuss this with your guidance counselor as soon as possible. You can also download an informative brochure regarding SIEC's Youth to Washington program from our Web site at [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop).

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# Winter Weather Woes

## Be prepared for ice storms and prolonged outages

**B**lasts of winter wind, moisture and fluctuating temperatures can result in severe freezing rain, sleet and ice storms. A heavy build-up of ice on power lines can cause wires to snap and utility poles to topple. Falling ice-laden trees or limbs can bring down power lines, cause outages and threaten life and property.

Safe Electricity and Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative (SIEC) stress the importance of being prepared for these potentially dangerous storms and the power outages they may cause.

When severe weather hits, damage may be caused to substations, power lines and other electrical equipment. Even with SIEC crews working around the clock, this damage can take days to repair. If there is extensive damage, other electric cooperatives may be called for help. SIEC does everything it takes to restore your power as quickly and safely as possible.

### Be prepared and know what to do in case of a winter emergency and long-term power outages:

- Always keep a battery-powered radio or TV, flashlights and a supply of fresh batteries readily available.
- Know where to find extra blankets.
- Fill spare containers with water for washing, and keep a supply of bottled drinking water on hand.
- Keep a supply of foods that don't require cooking or refrigeration, along with a hand opener for canned food.
- Turn off lights and appliances to prevent overloading circuits and damaging appliances when power is



restored. Leave one lamp or switch on to signal when your power returns.

- To prevent water pipes from freezing, keep faucets turned on slightly so water drips from the tap.
- Keep all grills and emergency generators outdoors to stay safe from carbon monoxide.
- Assemble a disaster supply kit ahead of time. Remember to include a first aid kit, prescription medicines and special items for infant, elderly or disabled family members.
- Stay inside and dress warmly in layered clothing.
- Close off unneeded rooms.
- When using an alternate heat source, follow operating instructions, use fire safeguards and be sure to properly ventilate.
- If you use a standby generator that is wired directly into your home's electrical system, you must operate it with a transfer safety switch. This prevents electricity from traveling back through the power lines or what is known as "backfeed." Backfeed creates danger for anyone near lines, particularly crews working to restore power. A safety transfer switch is not needed, only if appliances are plugged directly into the generator outlets.
- When outside, treat all downed and hanging lines as if they are energized electric lines. Stay away, warn others to stay away and immediately contact SIEC. For more detailed information regarding electrical safety, visit [www.SafeElectricity.org](http://www.SafeElectricity.org) and [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop).

### Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative Board of Directors

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For Outages Call:  
800-762-1400 • 618-827-3555

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## Reminder:

# We Need Your Correct Primary Telephone Number!

**W**hen reporting an outage through our automated outage reporting system, it is very important we have your correct, primary telephone number. Our outage reporting system will soon utilize your primary telephone number through Caller I.D. This al-

lows our dispatchers and crews to provide you with better service. If you have recently reported an outage and our system did not recognize your number, please contact the cooperative to update your records. Thanks!

Andrew Tyler Rose



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# Office Closing

**Our office will be closed Monday, January 21 for Martin Luther King Day.**



## Member Prize

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*Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative Offers*



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# JANUARY

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## SIEC Receives **HIGH** Marks

**W**e'd like to thank our members for helping us score an 86 in the recent American Customer Satisfaction Survey (ACSI). Our score improved significantly compared to the last ACSI survey in 2004. Your feedback places Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative a full 14 points higher than the investor-owned utility average and six points higher than Touchstone Energy electric cooperative averages.

Even though the ACSI recognizes "customer" satisfaction, SIEC members are in fact "owners." That's an important distinction! And, it's why we strive to provide a level of service that's second to none.

Naturally, we're honored. But it won't go to our head. We'll remain the dependable and reliable source of electricity you expect and deserve!



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# Know What to do in Vehicle Accidents Involving Power Lines

## Stay inside until help arrives

Instincts tell us to flee danger. Unfortunately, in vehicle accidents that bring down power lines, these natural inclinations can lead to tragic results.

If your car hits a power pole, or otherwise brings a power line down, Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative (SIEC) and Safe Electricity urge you to stay inside the vehicle until help arrives. Getting out of the vehicle, with few exceptions, is the wrong thing to do until the line has been de-energized.

"You are almost always better off to stay in the car, especially if the line is in contact with the vehicle," says Michael Logeman, SIEC Director of Engineering. "If the power line is still energized and you step outside, your body becomes the path for that electricity and electrocution is the tragic result."

It is best to wait until SIEC arrives to make sure power to the line is cut off. The only exception would be if fire or other danger, like the smell of gasoline, is present. In that case, the proper action is to jump – not step – with both feet hitting the ground at the same time. Jump clear, without touching the vehicle and ground at the same time. Shuffle or hop to safety keeping both feet together as you leave the area. Like the ripples in a pond or lake, the voltage diminishes the farther out it is from the source. Stepping from one voltage level to another allows the body to become a path for that electricity. **Steven C. Crow**

Even if a power line has landed on the ground, there is still the potential for the area near your car to



be energized. Stay inside the vehicle unless there is fire or imminent risk of fire.

The same rules apply to situations involving large farm and construction equipment that come in contact with overhead lines. Those working with large equipment should stay inside the cab or remain in the vehicle if equipment extensions come in contact with power lines. Warn others who may be nearby to stay away and wait until the electric utility arrives to make sure power to the line is cut off.

While driving, if you encounter a down wire on the road, always assume it is an electrical wire and energized, and stay in your car. If you come upon, or witness an accident involving toppled power poles and lines, don't leave your vehicle to approach the accident scene.

Often our inclination is to step in and help those in danger and offer assistance to the injured. But in accidents involving power poles, call for help. Wait for trained assistance to arrive, or you could become an additional victim in need of rescue.

Accidents and fires involving electricity cause more than a thousand deaths and tens of thousands of injuries each year. The vast majority are preventable if people understand the dangers and steps they can take to be safe around electricity.

For more electrical safety information, visit [www.SafeElectricity.org](http://www.SafeElectricity.org) and [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop).

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# SIEC Charity Raffle Benefits Children at Rustic Campus Head Start

Employees and directors of SIEC donated \$550 to the Southern Seven Health Department Rustic Campus Head Start in Ullin. Each year at Christmas, SIEC employees choose an organization in SIEC's service territory that can benefit from their personal contributions through a Christmas raffle. The money will be used for outdoor playground equipment and educational supplies for the children. Pictured from left are SIEC employees Steve Hoffman, Linda Keller, Pam Lentz, Loraine McGee and Southern Seven representatives Dona Middleton, Misty Harris and Tonya Marshall.



**Learn which SIEC local school won a 2008 Touchstone Energy Classroom Empowerment Grant and see how this creative teacher plans to involve her students in energy conservation. See page 9!**

## How to Find Air Leaks in Your Home

**Air leaks can lead to high-energy bills. Use these steps to find leaks in your home:**

- 1) Start outside. Look for gaps between your house and its foundation; gas, electric, phone, satellite, Internet and cable lines; your dryer vent; outdoor water faucets. A way to find large gaps in these places is to have someone shine a flashlight at night on one side while you're on the other. If you can see light, air can certainly get through. Expandable foam may work well to fill in these gaps.
- 2) Next, check the door and window frames. You can use a piece of paper slipped between the frame and window or door. If you can pull out the paper without it tearing, air can get in. Weather-stripping will seal these areas.

- 3) Search for small leaks using an incense stick. Pass the lit stick along the edges of a suspected leak and see if the smoke blows in or out. Do this on a windy day. Check for small leaks around outlets on outside walls, ceiling fans, recessed lights, vent fans, etc. Caulk and weather-stripping can help stop these leaks.

Remember: If you find leaks, seal them! A variety of products from caulk to foam sealers can be found at your local home store to help tighten up your home. Or call SIEC for more information on energy efficiency at 1-800-762-1400 and visit our Web site at [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop).

## Member prize

In this issue of the JAMUP, we printed the names of three SIEC members who are eligible to receive a \$10 credit toward their utility bill. If you find your name printed in this center section and it's not part of the story, call Jerri with your account number at 800-762-1400 to claim your prize.

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## Youth Day Reminder



**A**ttention all high school juniors! Don't forget to ask your guidance counselor about SIEC's Youth Day in Springfield, Ill. and a possible all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. this summer! For more details, check out our Web site at [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop). Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to learn about electric cooperatives, get involved in state government and represent your school at our state capital! Deadline=February 19. No essay required!

## Chris Boyd – Union County Citizen of the Year

**B**oard Directors of the Union County Chamber of Commerce selected SIEC Director of Member Services Chris Boyd as the 2007 Union County Citizen of the Year at their annual banquet. The Chamber of Commerce looks for outstanding individuals who promote the economic and business growth of Union County.

Boyd has grown up and resides in Union County. He is also the Executive Director of SouthWater, Inc., a member of the University of Illinois Extension Board Council, the Union County Chamber of Commerce Board of



From the left, former Union County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Twyla Holmes, Chris Boyd and Union County Chamber of Commerce Board President Charay Brewer.

Directors, the SIDEZ Infrastructure Committee, the Illinois Electric Council 4-H Committee and President of the Union County Economic Development Board. *Stephen A. Taylor*

## Office Closing

Our office will be closed Monday, February 18 for Presidents' Day.



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## Choosing the Right Tree and the Right Spot for Energy Efficiency

Always remember, when planting trees, place them a safe distance away from all overhead power lines.



Trees planted in the right places can save up to 25 percent of your household energy consumption for heating and cooling. Landscaping your home correctly should provide enough energy savings to return the investment in less than eight years. **Kent K Treese**

In the summer, the air temperature under a yard's shade tree can be 25 degrees cooler than that of the nearby street. You can block

a great deal of solar heat invading your home in the summer but still let the heat warm your home in the winter by planting deciduous trees. Trees with high leaves and branches should be planted to the south of your home to shade your roof from the hottest part of the day. Trees that have lower branches can be planted to the west to shade your home from the low afternoon sun.

A 6-8 foot tree planted near your home will begin shading windows its first year. It could shade your roof in as little as five years. And remember, shading your air conditioner can increase its efficiency by up to 10 percent.

For more information on energy efficiency, call Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative at 1-800-762-1400 and visit [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop).

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# Double-Throw Safety Transfer Switches for Emergency Generators

Cooperative members should be aware that if they wish to connect a portable generator into their home, building or farm wiring system during a power outage, then a double-throw safety transfer switch must be installed. During emergencies, many members think they can just pull the meter or put their breaker in the "off" position and then connect their generator into their home's wiring system. However, this is a very dangerous practice and one that the cooperative does not allow.

If the meter is accidentally installed, or if the breaker malfunctions or is accidentally turned on, then power from the generator would "backfeed" onto SIEC's distribution system, endangering linemen who will be working on the lines. Members are required to install a double-throw safety transfer switch, such as the one shown here. The cooperative offers these switches for sale. A qualified electrician should install your switch for you. Members should plan ahead to ensure safety when power outages occur! Please contact the cooperative if you have any questions on emergency generator safety.



*Plugging appliance cords directly into a portable generator is an accepted practice.*

**If you wish to connect a portable generator into your home's wiring system, then you must install a double-throw safety transfer switch (shown above).**

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## Retirement

**A**fter 34 years of service, Loraine McGee retired from Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative on February 8. She began as a receptionist, advanced to billing clerk then to billing coordinator and retired as the accountant. She remembers when everything was done manually and has been present for every computer conversion SIEC has experienced. **Merrl Beth Johnston**

Loraine said, "When I came to work at the co-op, my daughters were nine, eight and four years old. Now I'm leaving here with a three year old great-grandson. My life has been here!"

Loraine has special plans for post-retirement... traveling with her husband, Stan, fishing, cooking, scrapbooking and most importantly, spending time with her entire family.

## SIEC Position Changes



### Stephanie Theis

Began in 1997 as Records Specialist, advanced to Office Services Representative then to Payroll & Capital Credit Specialist and is now Accountant.



### Bree Hileman

Began in 2003 as Records Specialist, then advanced to Office Services Representative and is now Payroll & Capital Credit Specialist.



### Lana Livesay

Began in 2005 as Records Specialist and has now advanced to Office Services Representatives.



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**March 21**  
for Good Friday.

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## HONEY-B'S CAFÉ



Pictured from left: Emily, Alleigh, Jacquelyn, Matthew, Lisa, Abbigayle, Dave, Ashton, Stephanie and Chris.

It's been almost two years since Honey-B's Café opened its doors to Alexander County. Owners Dave and Lisa Honey employ around 15 people and offer a nice, clean atmosphere for customers to enjoy a delicious meal.

Located on Route 3 in Olive Branch, Honey-B's Café is open seven days a week from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m., serving breakfast all day. They offer an extensive menu with specials such as their highly-requested meatloaf, Mississippi pond-raised

catfish, ham and beans and the popular Olive Branch cheese steak sandwich. Their hamburger was even voted *Best Hamburger* by K103 radio station in 2006. Lisa's mother, Irene, makes their chicken and dumplings on Sundays, as well as fried chicken and homemade pies with Lisa's oldest daughter, Stephanie.

"This is definitely a family effort," says Lisa. "It's been a family adventure from the beginning and we've been much busier than we

ever thought. Our entire family was born and raised in Alexander County. It takes all of us to make this work."

Honey-B's Café offers a banquet room, which seats up to 75 people, off the main dining room. They do not have a facility charge for their banquet room, which makes it nice for Christmas and birthday parties, reunions, baby showers, etc. They also cater to outside events.

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# Power Outage Question & Answer Information

**M**any members have voiced concerns to our employees and have asked sincere questions regarding their power outage during our February and March ice storms. We would like to answer some of the most frequently asked questions so our members understand why we make the decisions we make and work outages the way we do.

## Why did you tell me I would have power in a couple of days when it took much longer?

**A.** We make the best estimates we can, but the changing weather affected our restoration efforts. In the beginning of our outage we were dealing with iced power lines, downed trees and broken poles. Our substations were without power because of problems on the transmission lines. It took longer to restore and get the transmission lines operationally stable than originally estimated. We then began focusing on our distribution lines (lines that serve our members). As the ice melted and began to fall, it caused limbs and branches to come into contact with transmission and distribution lines creating additional outages. Once again, the transmission line problems affected SIEC substations. We spent several hours redoing what we had just completed. Once transmission line repairs were made, we were able to concentrate again on our distribution lines. A couple of days after that, the wind picked up to 30 mph and caused more damage, again delaying our full restoration efforts.

## I haven't seen any co-op trucks in my area. Why is it taking so long?

**A.** SIEC has more 2,100 miles of line, mostly rural, to cover in the following counties: Johnson, Alexander, Massac, Union, Pulaski, southern Pope and a few lines in southern Jackson and southern Williamson counties. You may not see us working on the main roads, as our lines extend for miles into some of the most remote parts of southern Illinois. An outage must be restored from the substation out. It does not help to make repairs on the end of the line if you have no source of power at the beginning of the line. Often, we are working on restoring power to lines that may actually be miles away from where we are working.



## There were co-op trucks right down the road from me. Why don't I have power when all of my neighbors do?

**A.** There could be a few reasons. Utilities restore power to as many meters as possible in the shortest time possible. Our main lines either have one, two or three phases. It is sometimes possible to get one or two phases energized without getting the other phase "hot." **Russell Frederick Warner, Sr.**

If your service is connected to the phase that is not energized, you will not have power but your neighbors may be connected to a phase that is energized. Or you could be on a line originating from one of the phases that is energized, but your line may have a protective device that cannot be energized because of a fault on the line. The fault could be because a downed pole, wire or a limb on a section of that line a few miles from you. As long as there is a fault on that line, the protective device will not allow that section of line to be energized. Or you could have an individual outage because of a blown fuse on a transformer. Or, the problem could be on your side of the meter. We may have power to your meter but you could possibly have problems with your overhead or underground lines or meter loop, making it very dangerous and risking the safety of our linemen.

Our focus is on getting the most people on as quickly as we can. If we have a large number of people out of power, operations personnel may dispatch that truck to another area to try to

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get more meters energized in an efficient manner and come back to the individual outage later.

**I heard Ameren offered you help but you wouldn't accept it. Is this true?**

**A.** Does anyone remember that cooperatives were formed because investor-owned utilities such as Ameren would not serve the rural areas because it was not cost effective? With that said, it is true that Ameren offered their help. By the time their crews were available from their own outages, we already had other cooperative's crews and cooperative contractors either on our premises or en route to assist us. Ameren does not build lines to Rural Utilities Service (RUS) specifications. We feel safer and more comfortable with other cooperative and cooperative contract crews who know the RUS specifications. In many cases, the contractors with whom we work actually know our system, the directions of the feeds and where our protective devices are located. This is important information when you are trying to assure the safety of the workers and our members.

**You say you have more than 40 crews assisting SIEC employees. Why haven't you gotten more?**

**A.** There are a couple of reasons – safety and fiscal responsibility. We had more than 120 additional personnel working during our outage restoration efforts. Our normal outside workforce is usually 22 to 24 men and women. Our operations and engineering personnel and linemen know the direction our lines feed, where the protective devices are and how our system works. During a major storm, we sometimes have to change the way lines feed. We must keep track of these changes to be sure that we don't have one crew trying to energize a line that another crew may be working on.

*Tonia Benefield*

This is not information that can be taught in a short period of time. Operations personnel from other cooperatives could help some, but they cannot know the intricate details necessary to keep our workers safe. Neither can the linemen from other cooperatives or contract crews. It forces us to split our crews and personnel so that our experienced linemen can "birddog" (manage) for borrowed personnel to keep everyone safe. There is a limit to the number of crews a lineman can "birddog."

Additionally, we must be financially responsible to our members. The residents who receive their power from us are our owners. In this ice storm, we staged our borrowed crews as needed. We spent the first two days working transmission line outages. Our own crews in conjunction with Southern Illinois Power Cooperative (SIPC), our power supplier, and SIPC contractors, are the most efficient in determining transmission line problems.

As we determined the magnitude of the problems, we requested and received readily available crews from neighboring cooperatives and familiar contractors. Working outages in this manner is both efficient and financially responsible.

**Why was Ameren able to restore power to their customers faster than you?**

**A.** There are times when SIEC is affected more than Ameren and there are times when Ameren is affected more than SIEC. In February we were affected more. There is a huge difference in the territory Ameren covers and the territory SIEC covers. SIEC is mostly rural while Ameren mostly serves the small towns and villages. SIEC's lines (both transmission and distribution) are built across country through private right-of-way and heavily wooded areas. Ameren's lines are normally built along highways or major roadways. It takes more time to repair power lines in rural, private right-of-way areas. We had more than 175 broken poles due to downed trees from the ice storm. Specialized equipment is necessary to set poles and repair lines across private rights-of-way.

**Who is going to pay for my expenses that I incurred because of the power outage?**

**A.** The ice storm was an act of God. It is the goal of the cooperative to have continuous, uninterrupted service. In the case of interruption of service resulting from acts of God and other acts reasonably beyond our control, the cooperative shall not be liable for damages, direct, indirect or consequential resulting from such interruption of service. You may contact your insurance provider to see if your homeowner's insurance covers this expense. If your insurance company requests a letter from your power supplier just contact us and we would be glad to get you one.

**Will you be adjusting our bill next month because it took so long to restore power?**

**A.** We will not be adjusting any electric bills due to power loss from the ice storm. We are a not-for profit organization, owned by our members. You pay for the kWh used on your meters. When your meter is not turning, you are not using kWh.

**Is this outage going to affect our rates?**

**A.** Although our co-op is financially sound, it cannot withstand a major ice storm without eventually affecting rates. This, by the way, is true for all utilities. SIEC may qualify for FEMA assistance but it is our experience that this may not have affected a large enough area to qualify for FEMA help.

**Are you prepared for another storm?**

**A.** Yes. Although Mother Nature gave us the most devastating ice storm to ever affect SIEC, we are very comfortable with how we handled our outages. We will always strive to improve our efforts, and we will be analyzing the decisions made during the ice storm. We were never without supplies and have

Continued on page 16d.

Continued from page 16c.

replenished our inventory. We cannot predict the impact of a future storm but we are prepared with the most qualified employees, along with contract and cooperative personnel across the state. We will utilize our Emergency Action Plan through the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, just as we did with this storm. Last year, we spent \$1.1 million on right-of-way tree clearing. This year we are budgeted to spend \$1.35 million. Last year, we spent an additional \$3.1 million improving our distribution system. Had we not focused our resources on tree clearing and power line upgrades, the damage to our system could have been much worse.

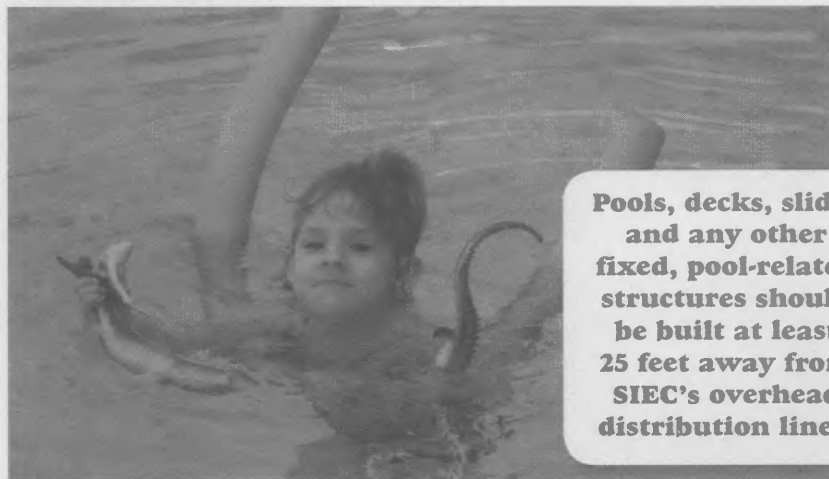
## Position Change



**STEVE HOFFMAN**

Steve began in 1990. He has held such positions as Janitor, Forestry Journeyman and Journeyman Lineman. He is now a Meter Tester Lineman.

# Look Up and Live! Around Swimming Pools



**Pools, decks, slides and any other fixed, pool-related structures should be built at least 25 feet away from SIEC's overhead distribution lines.**

**S**ummer brings to mind a cool dip in the pool, but don't let a safety hazard dampen your summer fun. SIEC and Safe Electricity remind everyone that water and electricity are a dangerous combination.

The result of contact between water and electricity can be serious, or even deadly. In most instances, if potential safety hazards are taken into consideration and handled proactively, accidents and deaths could certainly be avoided.

Pools, decks, slides and any other fixed, pool-related structures should be built at least 25 feet away

from SIEC's overhead distribution lines. This clearance is measured in any direction from the water level, edge of pool, adjacent fixed structure, etc. If you have any questions on whether your installation will meet the requirements, do not try to measure the clearance to the line yourself. Always contact SIEC prior to the installation. We will be happy to review your proposed installation to make sure it will meet safety requirements.

For more information contact SIEC or visit [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop) and [www.SafeElectricity.org](http://www.SafeElectricity.org).

## Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

7420 U.S. Highway 51 South • P.O. Box 100 • Dongola, Illinois 62926  
618-827-3555 • Office hours: 8 a.m. — 4 p.m.  
Web address: [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop)

### Board of Directors

Carole Jean Kelley (President), Dale Faughn (Vice President), Dale E. Taake (Secretary Treasurer), C. Larry Fisher, G. Robert Inman, Richard D. Moss, Barbara Pitts, Raymond C. Snell, Scott L. Ury, and Ronald Osman (Attorney)

Manager Larry Lovell • Editor Jerri Schaefer


For Outages Call:  
800-762-1400 • 618-827-3555

JOHNSON • ALEXANDER • MASSAC • UNION • PULASKI • POPE

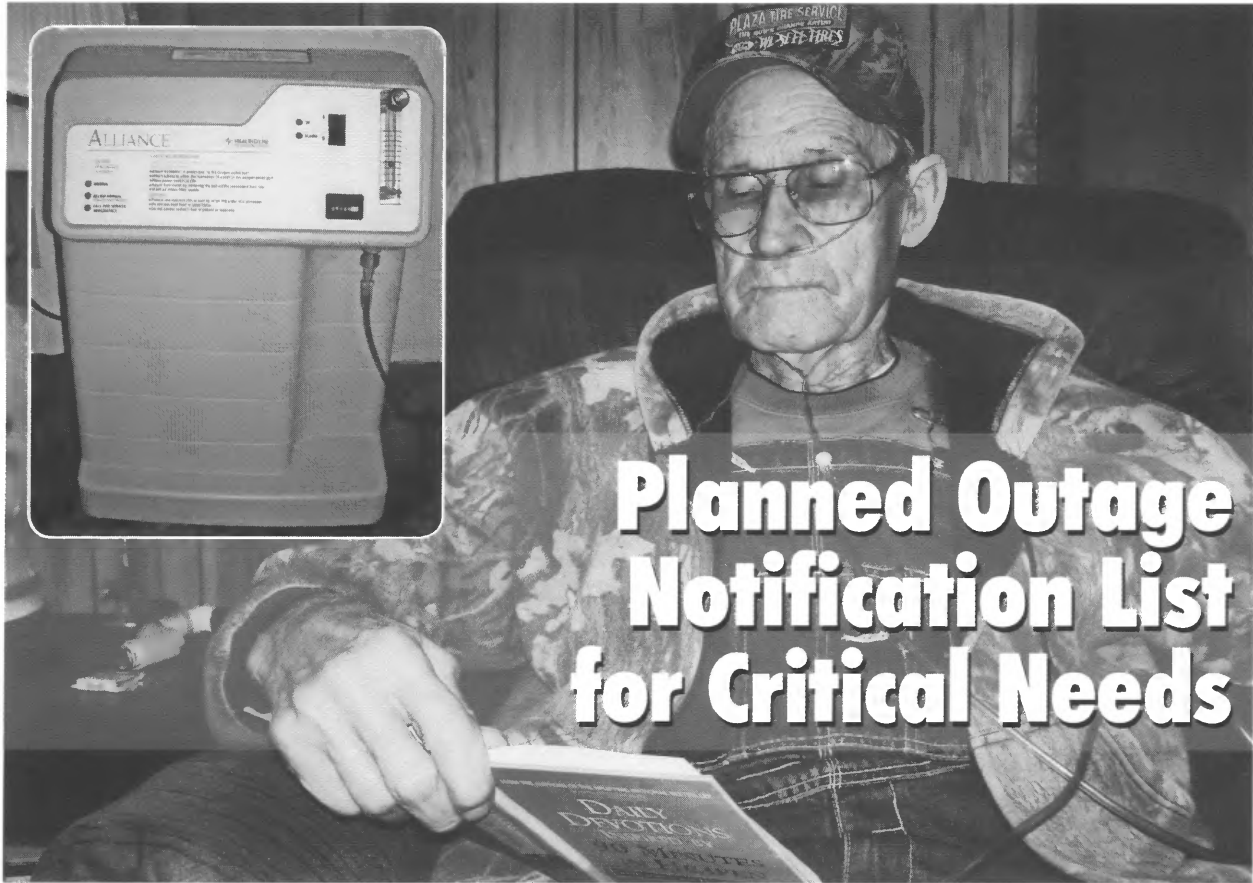


# JAMMUP

published by Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Dongola, Illinois

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13  
Voluntary and open membership • Voluntary and open membership • Voluntary and open membership



## Planned Outage Notification List for Critical Needs

If you're on medical life support equipment that requires electricity to function, please make sure SIEC is aware of the condition. Contact us at 800-762-1400 with the name on the account, your service address, a primary and backup telephone number, a description of the equipment and whether this is a permanent or rehabilitation situation. A medical doctor's note which should be updated every six months is also required for your member file.

In the event of a planned out-

age, we will attempt to inform you prior to the outage so you can take appropriate action during the time power will be off. It is important for those with the need of medical support equipment to have contingency plans.

Unplanned outages, such as storms, vehicle accidents with electric poles, or equipment failure, are beyond our control. This is why we recommend you have a backup or contingency plan. This may include a battery backup, a genera-

tor or another site where you can be transferred. We always do our best to restore everyone's power as quickly and safely as possible, but if the medical equipment is essential to your well being, it is important to have an emergency plan ahead of time.

Edward J. Blake, Jr.  
Please call SIEC at 800-762-1400 if you have any questions regarding our planned outage notification list.

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# Committed to Safety

System Engineer John Harris has been appointed as Safety Director at SIEC. He will continue his role as System Engineer as he monitors the co-op's safety program.

Harris and SIEC's reorganized safety committee perform general duties such as: investigate accidents, monitor the compliance of the co-op's safety/loss control program, review reports and safety suggestions by employees, and review and recommend work practices that reflect the safest, most efficient methods available for accomplishing required tasks, just to name a few.

The SIEC safety committee is as pictured: (top row from left) Forestry Foreman Blayne Holshouser, Journeyman Lineman Dale Gueterloh, System Engineer John Harris, Engineering & Operations Specialist Pam Lentz, (bottom row from



left) Warehouseman Todd Thurston and Utility Serviceman Larry Joe Keller. **Walter E. King**

A special thanks to Robin Ra-

mage, Terry Grissom, Larry Lingle, Mike Logeman and Cathy Belcher for their years of service on the former committee.

## ★ SIEC ★ Annual Meeting



Thursday, August  
7 at Shawnee  
Community College

## Office Closing MEMORIAL DAY

Our office will be closed Monday,  
May 26 in honor of Memorial Day.

### Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative Board of Directors

Carole Jean Kelley (President),  
Dale Faughn (Vice President), Dale E. Taake (Secretary Treasurer),  
C. Larry Fisher, G. Robert Inman, Richard D. Moss, Barbara Pitts,  
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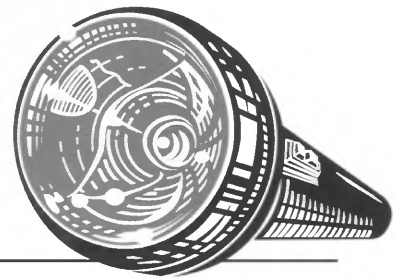
# Do You Have What You Need During a Power Outage?

Severe weather can wreak havoc on power lines. Being without electricity for any length of time can be unpleasant and inconvenient. There are steps you can take to lessen the negative impact of a prolonged power outage. Having a disaster supply kit is something you may think of during or immediately following a power outage. But, it is easy to forget when your power has been restored and you're no longer inconvenienced with no lights, no heating or cooling, or no water for some members. Please consider preparing a kit with the following items:

- At least a three day supply of water (one gallon per person per day)
- One blanket per family member
- A first aid kit with prescription medicines
- Flashlights and batteries
- A land line telephone
- A battery powered weather radio and portable radio
- Food that won't spoil
- An extra set of clothing and shoes for each family member
- Emergency telephone numbers and SIEC's telephone number 800-762-1400
- An extra set of vehicle keys, cash and a credit card

In addition to a disaster supply kit, a backup energy source is also a good idea. For details regarding safe generator installation and use, please visit our Web site at [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop) or call Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative at 800-762-1400.

Kent Sommer

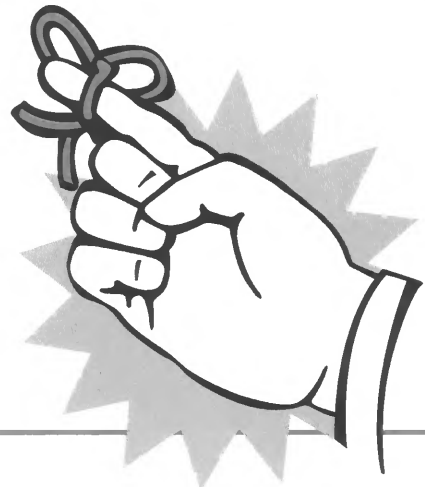


## Reminder:

### We Need Your Correct Primary Telephone Number!

When reporting an outage through our automated outage reporting system, it is very important we have your correct, primary telephone number. Our outage reporting system utilizes your primary telephone number through

Caller I.D. This allows our dispatchers and crews to provide you with better service. If you have recently reported an outage and our system did not recognize your number, please contact the cooperative to update your records. Thank you!



## Member prize

In this issue of the JAMUP, we printed the names of three SIEC members who are eligible to receive a \$10 credit toward their utility bill. If you find your name printed in this center section and it's not part of the story, call Jerri with your account number at 800-762-1400 to claim your prize.

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# Save on Long Distance



- ▶ Only 4.5¢\* per minute for all in-state calls!
- ▶ Standard rate is 4.9¢\* per minute for all state-to-state calls.
- ▶ Calling Card rate of 9.5¢ per minute!
- ▶ Great low international rates around the world!
- ▶ No monthly service charge, no minimum and no cost to join!
- ▶ You don't have to be a Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative customer to join!

Savings so big, they're outta this ballpark!



Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

® Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

Call today! 1-800-807-1837

\*Taxes and other regulatory charges not included. Certain restrictions and early termination fees may apply. Rates stated are for Illinois residents. Please call for details. In partnership with TransWorld Network.

10th Annual Wolf Lake Mud Race, Saturday, May 17, 1 p.m.



## MARATHON WATER HEATER

### HERE FOR GOOD

50 and 85 gallon water heaters in stock.

Tank will never rust, corrode or leak.

Call SIEC's Member Services Department for details at (800) 762-1400.

### Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

7420 U.S. Highway 51 South • P.O. Box 100 • Dongola, Illinois 62926  
618-827-3555 • Office hours: 8 a.m. — 4 p.m. • Web address: [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop)

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# JAMMUP

published by Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Dongola, Illinois

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## Youth Day

State Representatives Mike Bost and Brandon Phelps met with nine students representing Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative (SIEC) during the Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperatives' Youth Day on Wednesday, April 9 in Springfield. Students had an opportunity to view state government in action and tour the State Capitol, Illinois Supreme Court, Old State Capitol and the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum.

Front row from left are Rep. Bost, Briana Hammon of Meridian High School, Ayesha Ahmad of Century High School, Cassidy Grey of Cobden High School, SIEC Staff Assistant Jerri Schaefer and Rep. Phelps. **Richard D. Howell**

Middle row from left are Alisa Adkins of Joppa High School, Latoya Hogard of Dongola High School, Daniel Kerley of Vienna High School and Jacob Klein of Egyptian High School.

Back row from left are SIEC Director of Member Services Chris Boyd, Tim Mayberry of Shawnee High School and Cody McMahan of Anna-Jonesboro High School.

The day was sponsored by the Illinois electric and telephone cooperatives and is designed to introduce young rural leaders to state government.

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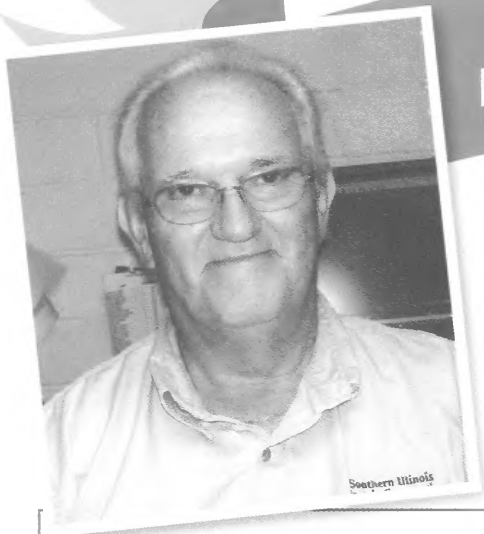
# Miss SIEC 2007

**Wearing Her Crown with Pride**

**O**n Aug. 7, 2007, Stacie Hines was crowned Miss SIEC. She scored very high in the interview, swimsuit and evening gown categories. But, there's more to this 19 year old girl from Belknap than just achievements, poise and beauty. It's her sincere enjoyment of representing SIEC and giving back to southern Illinois.

Stacie has been a busy young lady over the last year. She represented SIEC at 13 area charity events, parades and festivals such as: Catfish Days in Olmsted, Dongola Colorfest, Lions Club Telethon, Pope County Deer Festival, City of Metropolis Christmas Parade, Anna Bixby Benefit Horse Show in Vienna and the Bear's Bears for Kids charity fundraiser at Shawnee Community College, just to name a few.

"It has been such an honor to serve SIEC. It has given me experience in public speaking and the opportunity to reach out to the community and help in any way I can," explains Stacie. When asked what advice she would give to Miss SIEC 2008, Stacie proudly stated, "Cherish every moment. God gives each of us opportunities to show kindness. Go out and do as much as you can to help area communities because time spent helping others is never time lost and you will make amazing memories along the way!"



**Thank You Barry  
For 18 Years Of Service!**

***Barry Clark of Dongola  
began employment in  
1990 as Warehouseman.***

***He retired in April.***

## Member prize

In this issue of the JAMUP, we printed the names of three SIEC members who are eligible to receive a \$10 credit toward their utility bill. If you find your name printed in this center section and it's not part of the story, call Jerri with your account number at 800-762-1400 to claim your prize.

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# Miss Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

## BEAUTY PAGEANT RULES AND ENTRY FORM

**S**outhern Illinois Electric Cooperative is seeking entrants for the beauty pageant held in conjunction with the annual meeting of members, Thursday, August 7, 2008, at Shawnee College, Ullin, IL.

1. Entrant **MUST LIVE (Full Time) IN A HOME SERVED BY SOUTHERN ILLINOIS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE.** Leon D. Morris
2. Entrant **MUST BE 16-22 YEARS OF AGE, NEVER MARRIED AND HAS NOT GIVEN BIRTH.**
3. Previous first place winners are not eligible.
4. Candidates will appear in gowns and one-piece swimsuits (no extreme cuts).

<p>● <b>MISS SIEC 2008 WILL RECEIVE:</b> \$150 cash, crown, trophy, sash and an all expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., in June 2009.</p> <p>● <b>FIRST RUNNER-UP WILL RECEIVE:</b> \$100 cash, trophy and a gift. (In the event Miss SIEC cannot go to Washington, the First Runner-Up is given the opportunity.)</p> <p>● <b>SECOND RUNNER-UP WILL RECEIVE:</b> \$75 cash, trophy and a gift.</p> <p>● <b>CONSOLATION PRIZE:</b> \$50 cash to each non-winner.</p> <p>● <b>MISS CONGENIALITY:</b> Trophy to winner chosen by contestants.</p>	<p><b>CONTESTANTS WILL BE JUDGED AS FOLLOWS:</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>INTERVIEW-40%</th> <th>SWIMSUIT-30%</th> <th>EVENING GOWN-30%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>General Knowledge -10%</td> <td>Beauty-10%</td> <td>Beauty-10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Acheivement-10%</td> <td>Poise-10%</td> <td>Charm-10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vocabulary-10%</td> <td>Posture-10%</td> <td>Grace-10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Voice-10%</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	INTERVIEW-40%	SWIMSUIT-30%	EVENING GOWN-30%	General Knowledge -10%	Beauty-10%	Beauty-10%	Acheivement-10%	Poise-10%	Charm-10%	Vocabulary-10%	Posture-10%	Grace-10%	Voice-10%		
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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.)*

**DEADLINE: JULY 15, 2008**

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Street/Route \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Parents \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cellular \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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# 2008 Nominating Committee to Meet June 3

**M**embers to serve on the 2007-2008 nominating committee were appointed by Carole Kelley, President of the Board of Directors, at the 2007 annual meeting of the members held August 7, 2007. The committee will meet at the cooperative headquarters, 7420 U.S. Highway 51 South, Dongola, Illinois, at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 3, to consider nominees for election to the board of directors at the 2008 annual meeting of members.

The following committee members were appointed to the 2007-2008 nominating committee to represent their respective counties:

- **Alexander County delegate**, Donald E. Masterson, Route 1 Box 72, Olive Branch, IL 62969; and alternate, Richard Walker, 1 Commanche Dr., McClure, IL 62957.
- **Johnson County delegate**, Betty Casey, 6855 State Route 146W, Buncombe, IL 62912; and alternate, Patty Allbritten, 6130 Indian Point Road, Belknap, IL 62908.
- **Massac County delegate**, Josh Reagor, 398 Halstenberg Road, Karnak, IL 62956; and alternate, Orlis Harris, 7785 Waldo Church Road, Brookport, IL 62910.
- **Pulaski County delegate**, George Holhubner, P.O. Box 146, Olmsted, IL 62970; and alternate, Robert Heisner, 473 Big Stone Church Road, Grand Chain, IL 62941.
- **Union County delegate**, Glenn Heisner, 3605 Nash Road, Anna, IL 62906; and alternate, Ira Dugan Tripp, Jr., 1485 Gurley Loop, Buncombe, IL 62912;

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 the directors are expired alternately so that each year elections are held for a portion of the board. At the 2008 annual meeting, elections will be held for a director from each of these three counties: Alexander, Johnson and Massac.

## SIEC Annual Meeting, Thursday, August 7 Shawnee Community College

### Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

7420 U.S. Highway 51 South • P.O. Box 100 • Dongola, Illinois 62926

618-827-3555 • Office hours: 8 a.m. — 4 p.m.

Web address: [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop)

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# JAMUP

published by Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Dongola, Illinois

Your Touchstone Energy Partner 

## Please join us

August 7, 2008 at Shawnee  
Community College, Ullin, IL

## Enjoy:

Early Bird Prizes

•  
Miss SIEC 2008 Pageant

•  
Door Prizes

•  
Registration Gifts

•  
Entertainment

•  
Election of Three  
Directors



## Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative's Annual Meeting of Members

August 7, 2008

Registration: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Business Meeting: 7:00 p.m.

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# Always Call Before You Dig

## JULIE, Inc. Offers New Web Based Program for Homeowners

With a growing national trend of homeowners focusing on outdoor beautification and home improvement projects instead of selling their homes, JULIE, Inc.'s safety and education campaign reminds do-it-yourselfers about the importance of calling the Illinois One-Call System before starting any projects that involve digging.

"Not only do homeowners need the proper tools and materials, but the first step to planning any successful project is to call JULIE," said Kevin Chmura, director of public relations for JULIE, Inc. "Safe digging is no accident. When homeowners inadvertently cut or damage lines during so-called routine projects, the results can still take a staggering toll, in terms of costly delays, environmental or property damage, liability, personal injury and even loss of life."

JULIE, Inc. recently introduced E-Request, a free, web based program for homeowners with Internet access who want to enter their own utility locate requests via [www.illinois1call.com](http://www.illinois1call.com). In addition, JULIE's friendly and helpful call center representatives are available to receive and process requests 24 hours a day, seven days a week at either 811 or 800-892-1223. Charles Lalar Severns

"There is no reason to take a chance. With more utility companies delivering critical services



underground, homeowners are encouraged to simply call JULIE at 811 or visit our Web site to enter their own request," continued Patricia Ann Brown Chmura.

Common examples of do-it-yourself projects that require a call to JULIE before digging include putting up a fence; installing a swing set, a mail box post or water feature such as a pool, pond or fountain; building a deck or room addition; preparing a new garden or landscape area; or planting trees, bushes or shrubs.

Here's how it works. To ensure that underground utility lines in the work area are marked, call 811 or send an E-Request to JULIE at least two working days before digging. JULIE, Inc. will arrange for its member utility operators to have the underground lines at the project site marked, free of charge, so that homeowners can dig safely. JULIE neither owns nor marks any underground lines.

As one of the largest industry one-call systems in the nation, the not-for-profit organization represents 1,730 members and annually receives 1.2 million locate requests. For a copy of JULIE's Homeowner's Guide, an explanation of the color-code markings and information about the one-call process, visit [www.illinois1call.com](http://www.illinois1call.com).

If Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative (SIEC) members request that the cooperative help locate any member-owned underground electric lines, the member must call SIEC directly at (800) 762-1400. JULIE will not notify SIEC to locate member-owned facilities.

### Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

7420 U.S. Highway 51 South • P.O. Box 100 • Dongola, Illinois 62926  
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# Miss Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

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2. Entrant **MUST BE 16-22 YEARS OF AGE, NEVER MARRIED AND HAS NOT GIVEN BIRTH.**
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4. Candidates will appear in gowns and one-piece swimsuits (no extreme cuts).

+ MISS SIEC 2008 WILL RECEIVE: \$150 cash, crown, trophy, sash and an all expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., in June 2009.

+ FIRST RUNNER-UP WILL RECEIVE: \$100 cash, trophy and a gift. (In the event Miss SIEC cannot go to Washington, the First Runner-Up is given the opportunity.)

+ SECOND RUNNER-UP WILL RECEIVE: \$75 cash, trophy and a gift.

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

+ MISS CONGENIALITY: Trophy to winner chosen by contestants.

CONTESTANTS WILL BE JUDGED AS FOLLOWS:

General Knowledge -10%	Beauty-10%	Beauty-10%
Acheivement-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.)

DEADLINE: JULY 15, 2008

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Street/Route \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Parents \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cellular \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

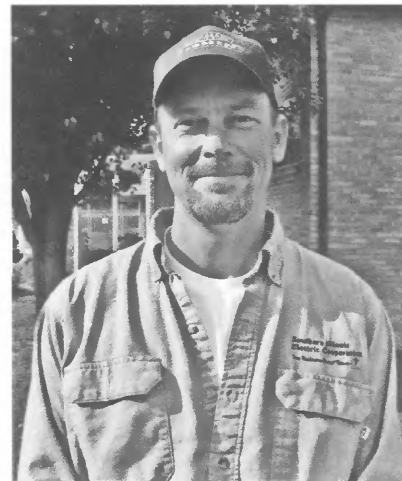
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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# Blayne Holshouser Earns Professional Certification

SIEC Forestry Foreman, Blayne Holshouser, recently completed the Certified Arborist examination administered through the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) and the local chapter of the ISA. *Pauline Hight*

demonstrated, through a developed examination and education program, a thorough knowledge of tree care practices. Certification is valid for three years. The ISA program tests and certifies an individual's knowledge in the field of Arboriculture.



The purpose of the ISA Certification Program is to improve the level of knowledge and standard of practice within the tree care profession. It is designed to assist the public in identifying those professionals in arboriculture who have

The ISA is a scientific and educational organization devoted to the dissemination of information in the care and preservation of shade and ornamental trees.

*Our office will be closed on July 4.*

## Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative Board of Directors

Carole Jean Kelley (*President*), Dale Faughn (*Vice President*), Dale E. Taake (*Secretary Treasurer*), C. Larry Fisher, G. Robert Inman, Richard D. Moss, Barbara Pitts, Raymond C. Snell, Scott L. Ury, and Ronald Osman (*Attorney*)

Manager Larry Lovell • Editor Jerri Schaefer

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To claim your prize, call us at (800) 762-1400, ask for Jerri.

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# ILLINOIS COUNTRY LIVING



August 2008

Published by Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Dongola, Illinois

## Official Meeting Notice

Notice is hereby given that the 2008 annual meeting of the members of Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative will be at 7 p.m., Thursday, August 7, 2008 at Shawnee Community College, Ullin, Illinois, to take action upon the following matters.

1. The report of the officers, directors, manager and committees.
2. The election of three directors of the cooperative.
3. The matters and business set out in the remainder of this notice and any other matter of business that may be properly brought before the meeting or any adjournment or adjournments thereof.

In connection with the election of directors scheduled for this meeting, the following members have been nominated by the

committee of nominations, appointed by the president of the cooperative pursuant to the bylaws:

Alexander County.....Raymond C. Snell (three-year term)

Johnson County..... Carole J. Kelley (three-year term)

Massac County.....C. Larry Fisher (three-year term)

Additional nominations for directors of the cooperative may be made from the floor at the meeting.

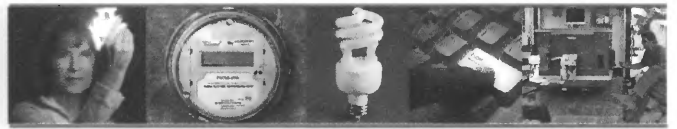
Given at Dongola, Illinois, this 28th day of July 2008.

Dale E. Taake, Secretary – Treasurer

### **Official Registration**

*Cut out and bring to the meeting for registration and drawing of prizes.*

**This is the Official Meeting Notice. No booklet will be mailed. Refer to pages 16a through 16d of magazine for additional information.**



## 2008 President and General Manager's Report



Larry Lovell  
General Manager



Carole J. Kelley  
President

The 69th annual meeting of members of Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative (SIEC) will be at 7 p.m. Thursday, August 7, 2008 at Shawnee Community College in Ullin, Illinois. We invite you and your family to attend and participate in this year's annual meeting.

### Energy Crisis

This year the nation will be voting for a new president. New ideas and change are prevalent. Pressure is mounting in Congress to do something about climate change. Most political leaders agree that we need to protect our planet and its environment. There have been many debates on what needs to be done, how it should be done and who should do it. While political debates in Washington, D.C. may seem far away, the outcome will have a direct impact on cooperative members and other electric consumers. Therefore, it is important for you as cooperative members and other electric consumers to contact your elected officials to voice your concern regarding climate change and the effect it may have on your electric bill.

Climate change is but one aspect of a looming energy crisis. The electric utility industry is also experiencing increasing demand for power and decreasing resources to meet the expanding demand for energy. These polar opposites, the desire to reduce greenhouse gas emissions quickly coupled with increasing demand and decreasing capacity, are about to collide. To avert an energy crisis, the federal government must exercise true leadership. Without a sound, responsible plan, the government risks not only the reliability of our national electric system (blackouts and

brownouts) but also risks the ability of many Americans to be able to afford to pay their electric bills.

Any climate change legislation should consider energy supply to make sure the nation has adequate electricity generation in the future. Three key questions need to be answered.

1. Where is the electricity going to come from in the future? Our base load energy reserve is shrinking, while at the same time we are all using more and more energy in our homes.
2. How will we fund the technology and research needed to meet the energy needs and to provide answers to our climate change concerns?
3. How will we balance the cost to our economy with all of these energy supply issues and climate change expenses? It is going to be costly and we need to strike a balance. Some are already struggling to pay their bills.

The legislation needs to focus on funding research to develop new technologies to make emission-free electric utility plants affordable for the end user. This is why electric cooperatives nationwide have launched a national grassroots campaign titled "Our Energy, Our Future: A Dialogue with America." It has one purpose - to encourage open discussion with electric cooperative members and their elected officials. Our campaign is simple - it is about keeping the lights on and electricity affordable. We will be discussing this campaign with you at our annual meeting. For more details, visit our Web site, [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop) for a link to the Our Energy, Our Future website.

### Power Supply

Southern Illinois Power Cooperative (SIPC) is our power supplier. SIPC has its own generation capacity consisting of 283 megawatts of coal/carbon fired generation and 140 megawatts of natural gas turbine generators. Additional power is bought on the market as needed to cover peak loads and during planned and unplanned outages.

As you might guess, the price of coal, carbon, natural gas and purchased power

continues to rise. In 2007, SIEC paid SIPC 5.87 cents/kWh for our cost of power. New estimates show that SIEC could pay as high as 6.29 cents/kWh in 2008; an increase of nearly 7.2 percent. Just as we are unable to predict the cost of a gallon of gasoline in 2009, we can only guess at what the cost of power might be. Early indications are that it could increase another 13 percent.

As loads from the six member-owners (southern Illinois distribution cooperatives) of SIPC continue to grow, SIPC is trying to assure it can meet its future power requirement needs. SIPC has purchased 125 megawatts of the new environmentally friendly Prairie State Energy Campus being built at Lively Grove. Prairie State is expected to be partially operational in 2011 and fully operational in 2012.

### Ice Storm

On February 11 of this year, SIEC was hit by a devastating ice storm. The ice storm affected our entire distribution system. For a few hours, all SIEC meters were without power because the storm also affected SIPC transmission lines that supply power to our distribution substations. All of our employees and "borrowed personnel" from other cooperatives and contractors battled diligently for the next 10 days to restore power to our members. We are continuing today to clean up, clearing trees and limbs, re-sagging conductor, putting up neutral wires and rebuilding some of the lines that were affected the most. We expect total cost of restoration and "clean-up" to be in excess of \$2.5 million.

We commend and thank our employees and "borrowed personnel" for a job well done. We also thank you, our members, for your tremendous understanding, thoughtful acts of kindness, and endearing words of encouragement during those wearisome days.

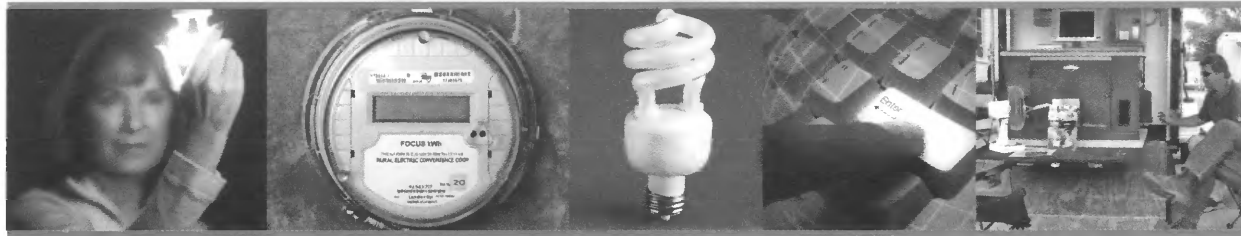
### Our Promise

The Board of Directors, management and employees of SIEC will continue to strive to keep your lights on and your electricity affordable.

# JAMUR

published by Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Dongola, Illinois

Your Touchstone Energy Partner 



## Annual Meeting Program

### August 7, 2008

<b>Registration</b>	5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Cut out registration card on the outside cover of magazine to register for door prizes. Each member registering will receive one \$10 credit to apply on their electric bill. In addition, drawings will be before and after the meeting for attendance prizes. Registration will be inside the River Room.
<b>Entertainment</b>	Steve Hornbeak will be performing from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Appearance of beauty contestants in swimsuit competition at 6:30 p.m. Early bird prizes will given out at the conclusion of the swimsuit competition.
<b>Meeting Begins</b>	7 p.m. Call to order .....Carole J. Kelley, President Invocation National Anthem ..... Miss SIEC 2007, Stacie Hines Welcome ..... Larry Lovell, Manager  Business Meeting Reading of the 2007 Minutes Official Meeting Notice ..... Dale E. Taake, Secretary - Treasurer President's and Manager's Report Nominating Committee Report ..... George Holhubner, Secretary Balloting for Directors ..... Ronald E. Osman, Attorney Unfinished Business New Business Adjournment of Business Meeting Introduction of Visitors Performance by Ms. Ashley Hatfield Completion of 2008 Miss Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative Pageant More Prize Giveaways

# NOMINATING COMMITTEE MINUTES

The nominating committee appointed by the president with the approval of the membership, met at the cooperative headquarters building at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 3, 2008, to nominate three directors for three-year terms.

The following voting delegates were present: Donald E. Masterson, Alexander County; Betty Casey, Johnson County; Josh Reagor, Massac County; George Holhubner, Pulaski County; and Glenn Russell Heisner, Union County.

The following voting alternates were present: Richard R. Walker, Alexander County; Orlis Harris, Massac County; Robert Heisner, Pulaski County; and Ira Dugan Tripp, Jr., Union County.

Absent was voting alternate Patty Allbritten, Johnson County.

Attorney Ronald E. Osman and Administrative Assistant Cathleen Belcher were also present at the meeting. Attorney Osman explained the duties of the nominating committee and the portion of the by-laws pertinent to the nomination of directors. He also explained the following methods by which directors may be nominated:

1. by a nominating committee,
2. by a petition of 15 members in writing, or
3. by nominations from the floor at the members' annual meeting.

Attorney Osman acted as temporary chairperson until the election of a permanent chairperson.

Betty Casey nominated Josh Reagor to act as chairperson. A motion was made by George Holhubner, and seconded by Donald E. Masterson, to close nominations and elect Josh Reagor by acclamation. Motion carried.

Chairperson Reagor appointed George Holhubner to act as secretary.

A motion was made by Donald E. Masterson to nominate Raymond C. Snell as director for Alexander County. A motion was made by George Holhubner and seconded by Glenn



Seated in the front row left to right are: Glenn Russell Heisner, Union County; George Holhubner, Pulaski County; and, Donald E. Masterson, Alexander County. Standing left to right are: Richard R. Walker, Alexander County; Robert Heisner, Pulaski County; Ira Dugan Tripp, Jr., Union County; Betty Casey, Johnson County; Josh Reagor, Massac County; and Orlis Harris, Massac County.

Russell Heisner to close nominations and nominate by acclamation Raymond C. Snell as director for Alexander County. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Betty Casey to nominate Carole J. Kelley as director for Johnson County. A motion was made by Donald E. Masterson and seconded by Betty Casey, to close nominations and nominate by acclamation Carole J. Kelley as director for Johnson County. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Donald E. Masterson to nominate C. Larry Fisher as director for Massac County. A motion was made by George Holhubner and seconded by Glenn Russell Heisner, to close nominations and nominate by acclamation C. Larry Fisher as director for Massac County. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Betty Casey and seconded by George Holhubner to adjourn. Motion carried. Chairperson Reagor adjourned the meeting.

## Profiles of Board Candidates

### Raymond C. Snell Alexander County



Raymond C. Snell of Thebes was selected by the nominating committee for election to the board of directors to represent Alexander County. He was first elected in August 1978 and has served 30 years as a cooperative director. Snell and his wife, Anna, are retired from farming. They are active members of the Alexander Freewill Baptist Church in Olive Branch.

### Carole J. Kelley Johnson County



The nominating committee has nominated Carole J. Kelley of

Buncombe for election to the cooperative board. Mrs. Kelley graduated from SIU in Edwardsville with a major in mathematics and a minor in accounting. She is a lifelong resident of Johnson County. She and her husband, Allen, are the parents of four children and live on a farm west of Buncombe. Mrs. Kelley was a local 4-H leader, and she was also very active in the cooperative extension service, having served as a board member for Alexander, Johnson, Massac, Pulaski and Union counties. She currently volunteers as Secretary/Treasurer at the Goreville Ministerial Alliance. Mrs. Kelley and her husband are both youth leaders at Grange Hall Church in rural Marion.

### C. Larry Fisher Massac County



C. Larry Fisher of Karnak has been nominated by the nominating committee to represent Massac County. He was appointed to the board in January 1995 to serve the unexpired term of Lawrence Wilke and was elected in August 1995. He and his wife, Jeanie, live on the family farm. They have three children and nine grandchildren. Mr. Fisher currently represents the cooperative on the Southern Illinois Power Cooperative (SIPC) Board. He serves on the Transmission and Power Marketing Committee at SIPC.



# Minutes of the 68th Annual Meeting

The 68th annual meeting of the members of Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative was held at Shawnee Community College, Ullin, Illinois, on August 7, 2007, pursuant to Section 1, Article II of the bylaws and notice of the Secretary dated the 24th day of July, 2007.

Board President Carole Kelley called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. with a quorum present.

SIEC Employee LaRue Parr offered the invocation. The National Anthem was sung by the musical group Blend.

Chris Bennett, Director of Administration and Finance, conducted the drawing for the early bird prizes.

Cooperative Manager Larry Lovell extended a welcome to all members who had come to participate in the annual meeting proceedings. Mr. Lovell introduced the Board of Directors, Carole J. Kelley, Board President, Johnson County; Dale Faughn, Vice-President, Massac County; Dale E. Taake, Secretary-Treasurer, Pulaski County; Raymond Snell, Alexander County; Larry Fisher, Massac County; Barbara Pitts, Union County; Scott Ury, Union County; and, Richard Moss, Alexander County. Absent from the meeting was G. Robert Inman, Pulaski County. Also introduced was the Cooperative's Attorney, Ronald E. Osman of Marion and Dongola.

Dale Taake, Secretary-Treasurer, read the proof of mailing notice and official meeting notice. Taake introduced a motion to accept and approve the minutes as mailed in the Official Meeting Notice or distributed at registration this evening and to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Motion was seconded by Henry Schnaare. Motion carried.

President Kelley gave the President's report. She then introduced Larry Lovell, General Manager and Executive Vice-President of Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative to give the General Manager's report.

Lovell introduced Betty Casey, Nominating Committee Secretary, to read the nominating committee report. President Kelley asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the nominating committee. The motion was made by Larry Douglas and seconded by Orlis Harris. Motion carried.

President Kelley then announced the Nominating Committee chosen for 2007-2008. They are: Alexander County

Delegate - Donald E. Masterson, Olive Branch  
Alternate - Richard Walker, McClure  
Johnson County

Delegate - Betty Casey, Buncombe  
Alternate - Patty Allbritten, Belknap  
Massac County

Delegate - Josh Reagor, Karnak  
Alternate - Orlis Harris, Brookport  
Pulaski County

Delegate - George Holhubner, Olmsted  
Alternate - Robert Heisner, Grand Chain  
Union County

Delegate - Glenn Heisner, Anna  
Alternate - Ira Dugan Tripp, Jr., Buncombe

President Kelley introduced Attorney Ronald E. Osman and turned the meeting over to him to conduct the election of directors.

Attorney Osman explained the bylaws as they pertain to the election of directors and stated the nominating committee appointed at the last annual meeting is provided for in these bylaws. He further mentioned the qualifications of directors and the procedure for election of the same.

Attorney Osman explained the three ways of nominating directors, namely, (1) nominations by nominating committee; (2) nominations by petition; and (3) nominations from the floor.

Attorney Osman reported that at the meeting on June 5, 2007, the nominating committee nominated the following individuals for three year terms:

Alexander County - Richard D. Moss  
Pulaski County - Dale E. Taake  
Union County - Scott L. Ury

Attorney Osman then proceeded with the election of directors.

Attorney Osman said that Richard D. Moss has been nominated by the Nominating Committee for election to a three-year term in Alexander County. No nominations by petition have been filed. There were no nominations from the floor. The motion was made by H. C. Lawrence and seconded by Larry Douglas to close nominations and have the secretary cast a unanimous ballot by acclamation. Motion carried.

Attorney Osman said that Dale E. Taake has been nominated by the Nominating Committee for election to a three-year term in Pulaski County. No nominations by petition have been filed. There were no nominations from the floor. A motion by Henry Schnaare and seconded by H. C. Lawrence was made to close nominations and have the secretary cast a unanimous ballot by acclamation. Motion carried.

Attorney Osman said that Scott L. Ury has been nominated by the Nominating Committee for election to a three-year term in Union County. No nominations by petition have been filed. There were no nominations from the floor. A motion was made by Orlis Harris and seconded by Larry E. Theis to close nominations and have the secretary cast a unanimous ballot by acclamation. Motion carried.

President Kelley asked if there was any unfinished business. There was none.

President Kelley then asked if there was any new business. There was none.

President Kelley then asked for a motion to adjourn the business portion of the meeting. The motion was made by Orlis Harris and seconded by Larry E. Theis. Motion carried.

President Kelley then asked Mr. Lovell to return to the podium to recognize visitors for the evening. Lovell introduced the staff members from the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives

in Springfield, Illinois. In attendance were: John Freitag, Vice President of Operations; John Lowrey, Manager of Information and Editor of Illinois Country Living Magazine; Frank Seward, Field Services Representative; and Ken Macken, Safety Instructor along with his wife, Melia and his son, Sam. Also introduced was Tim Reeves, President and CEO of Southern Illinois Power Cooperative at the Lake of Egypt.

President Kelley and Mr. Lovell presented a service award for 25 years of service with the Cooperative to SIEC Director, Richard D. Moss. Cooperative employee Roger D. Acuff, who was unable to attend this meeting, was also recognized for his 25 years of service.

President Kelley and Mr. Lovell presented special recognition plaques to SIEC's Youth to Washington Winners, Stephanie Wilson and Aaron Sellars.

Lovell introduced John Freitag, Vice-President of Operations at the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, Springfield, Illinois, and emcee for the beauty pageant.

Freitag explained the rules and prizes of the beauty contest and introduced the judges for the competition: Terri Harfst of Carterville, Illinois, Academic Scholarship Coordinator at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale; Ralph Graham, Marion, Illinois, of Graham & Associates Financial Group, LLC in Marion and Collinsville; and, Bryce Cramer, District Office and Member Services Manager for Egyptian Electric Cooperative in Murphysboro, Illinois.

Freitag stated that prior to the beginning of tonight's annual meeting, the swimsuit portion of the competition was conducted. He introduced the contestants for the evening gown competition. He then asked the contestants to leave the stage while the judges tallied the results of the beauty pageant.

At that time a special prize give-a-way drawing was held for children 12 and under. Also, several door prizes were awarded to members who were present.

Freitag introduced Laura Ann Dillow, Miss Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative 2006, and invited her to talk about her year representing the cooperative.

The retiring queen crowned Stacie Lynn Hines of Belknap, Miss Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative 2007. First runner-up and Miss Congeniality was Emily Kate Travis of Belknap. Second runner-up was Lorena Godinez of Anna.

Other contestants were: Kaci Rae Clary, Rebecca Douglas, Katherine Addie Inman, Keshia Rose Juarez, Natalie Nicole McCall, Stephanie Rae Wilson and Jade Wolfe.

The directors adjourned to reorganize.

More door prizes were awarded following the beauty pageant.

## BALANCE SHEET ANALYSIS FOR THE YTD AS OF DECEMBER 31

ASSETS AND OTHER DEBITS	2007	2006
Total Utility Plant	\$52,557,711.00	\$50,262,254.00
Accum. Provision for Depreciation	<u>(13,119,982.00)</u>	<u>(12,714,034.00)</u>
Net Utility Plant	\$39,437,729.00	\$37,548,220.00
Total Other Property & Investments	8,948,157.00	8,747,498.00
Total Current & Accrued Assets	<u>2,827,087.00</u>	<u>1,868,987.00</u>
Total Assets & Other Debits	<u>\$51,212,973.00</u>	<u>\$48,164,705.00</u>

LIABILITIES AND OTHER CREDITS	2007	2006
Memberships	\$131,770.00	\$129,860.00
Patronage Capital	24,631,514.00	23,383,144.00
Other Margins & Equities	<u>30,664.00</u>	<u>29,295.00</u>
Total Margins & Equities	\$24,793,948.00	\$23,542,299.00
Total Long-Term Debt	17,258,863.00	17,140,631.00
Total Other Noncurrent Liabilities	4,835,168.00	3,319,205.00
Total Current & Accrued Liabilities	4,306,292.00	4,140,556.00
Deferred Credits	<u>18,702.00</u>	<u>22,014.00</u>
Total Liabilities & Other Credits	<u>\$51,212,973.00</u>	<u>\$48,164,705.00</u>

## STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AS OF DECEMBER 31

	2007	2006
OPERATING REVENUE	\$22,023,440.00	\$20,657,836.00
COST OF PURCHASED POWER	13,117,287.00	12,349,910.00
OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE EXPENSE	<u>5,275,862.00</u>	<u>5,124,766.00</u>
TOTAL OPERATIONS & MAINT EXPENSE	18,393,149.00	17,474,676.00
DEPRECIATION & AMORT. EXPENSE	1,649,588.00	1,568,519.00
INTEREST ON LONG-TERM DEBT	968,771.00	906,552.00
OTHER COST OF ELECTRIC SERVICE	<u>205,907.00</u>	<u>213,844.00</u>
TOTAL COST OF ELECTRIC SERVICE	<u>\$21,217,415.00</u>	<u>\$20,163,591.00</u>
OPERATING MARGINS	\$806,025.00	\$494,245.00
NON-OPERATING MARGINS	<u>445,233.00</u>	<u>785,199.00</u>
NET PATRONAGE CAPITAL OR MARGIN	<u>\$1,251,258.00</u>	<u>\$1,279,444.00</u>

OPERATING STATISTICS	2007	2006
TOTAL KWH PURCHASED	223,322,395	213,397,908
TOTAL KWH SOLD	209,604,929	203,063,649
TOTAL KWH USED BY COOPERATIVE	318,652	388,092
NEW SERVICES ADDED	255	190
SERVICES RETIRED	188	140
NET CHANGES IN TOTAL SERVICES	67	50
TOTAL SERVICES IN PLACE	13,737	13,670
CONNECTED MEMBERS	11,665	11,642
IDLE SERVICES	2,134	2,128
SECURITY LIGHTS IN PLACE	5,200	5,187
MILES OF LINE	2,120	2,118

### Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

7420 U.S. Highway 51 South • P.O. Box 100 • Dongola, Illinois 62926  
 (618) 827-3555 • Office hours: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. • Web address: [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop)



## 2008 ANNUAL MEETING TREASURER'S REPORT



**Dale E. Taake**  
Secretary-Treasurer

2007 was another successful year for your electric cooperative. Only through continued growth and success can we continue to upgrade our plant and provide needed maintenance that

will allow us to better serve our many members. We had a net growth of over 380 new memberships in 2007, and our kWh sales in 2007 increased by over 6.5 million to a total of 209.6 million for the year, up from the 203.1 million sold in 2006. We presently serve over 11,650 members by way of 2,120 miles of line throughout our six-county service area.

The largest single expense item we have is our purchased power. As you know, the cost of purchased power has become quite volatile in the past few years. We are fortunate at SIEC to be part-owner in Southern Illinois Power Cooperative (SIPC) near Marion where three of our own directors and our manager serve as directors of SIPC. Our cost of power of over \$13.1 million translates to about 60 percent of every revenue dollar we receive. To this cost, we must add the balance of the cost of operations, which equals another 37 percent of every revenue dollar we receive. This additional cost includes all labor, insurance, taxes, materials and supplies, fuel costs, vehicles and their maintenance, all taxes paid by the cooperative, interest on long-term debt, and

what we estimate the system and all equipment has depreciated this year. Our approximate 3 percent margins from our rates of \$806,025 show how we try to keep our rates as reasonable as possible, yet maintain our excellent service to you, our member-owners. We had additional margins from cooperatives, i.e. those we are a member of, in the form of allocated capital credits as well as some interest income of approximately \$445,233 for a total margin of \$1,251,258 for the year 2007. I encourage you to review the financial reports and statistics as they appear in this booklet. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give the office a call and we will be happy to discuss any of them with you.

Overall, the average monthly residential bill for 2007 was \$130.51 for 1,198 kWh or less than 11 cents per kWh sold. We feel this is a very fair price and a great value. Many of us do not realize the convenience of electricity that we have grown accustomed to until our power is interrupted by mother nature or some other uncontrollable incident. However, to be able to use electricity to light our homes, barns and other buildings, heat and/or cool our homes, pump water, run electric motor driven equipment, etc. for an average of under 11 cents per kWh is something we are proud of. If you are not aware of these same costs for other electric companies in Illinois, I encourage you to contact our office. I think you will be both surprised

and pleased.

As you will see on our balance sheet, our net total assets are over \$51.2 million. Of this total, just \$17.3 million is still debt financed. Our present equity position of 48.4 percent translates to less interest expense to be paid our bankers and helps to keep our electric rates all the lower. The allocation of all margins and the subsequent return of capital credits set us apart from neighboring investor-owned (IOU) and municipal utilities. With SIEC, you have ownership and by attending your annual meeting of members you have a voice. Unless you own "stock" in an IOU, you will not receive any "return of margins" and certainly will not have any voice in its organization. SIEC's Board of Directors, your neighbors, annually evaluate our ability to payback in cash a portion of the capital credits due our members, realizing there is a fine balance between paying our members and having to adjust our electric rates or finance continual plant additions and improvements.

We think the future looks very bright for SIEC. Like yourselves, we are not certain what lies ahead, but we do know that SIEC is financially strong, has some of the best, well trained, and ready-to-serve employees available, and we know our members still require local ownership and management that live among and receive the same services they do. We're proud of our "grass roots" and "locally owned" organization and trust you are, too!



Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative Now Sells

**Marathon**<sup>®</sup>  
WATER HEATERS

Turn it on. Leave it on. For Good.

- Lifetime warranty
- Guaranteed not to leak
- Highest energy efficiency rating
- Easy to install

Here for Good.<sup>SM</sup>



## Entertainment

### STEVE HORNBEAK

Steve lives and works in Nashville, Tenn., but grew up and began his music career in Tamms. He has been playing music professionally for over 25 years and has worked with some of the biggest names in the business.

Currently, Steve is touring with Grammy award winning singer-songwriter Richard Marx and country music star John Michael Montgomery. He spent years of keyboard and vocal work with Lee Greenwood and Faith Hill. Steve has performed on the Tonight Show, David Letterman,

the Grammy's and the CMA's. Other major artists he has performed with include: Vince Gill, Jessica Andrews, Billy Gilman, Phil Vassar, JoDee Messina, Tracy Lawrence, Eddie Rabbitt, Michael Bolton, Kenny Loggins and Night Ranger.

As owner-operator of Key-Stone Studio in Nashville, he recently produced and released his first contemporary Christian CD called "Hear My Prayer". For more details visit his Web site at [www.stevhornbeak.com](http://www.stevhornbeak.com).



**Grand Prize**  
**\$300 cash**  
**Second Prize**  
**\$100 cash**  
**Third Prize**  
**\$50 cash**

As in the past, all three prizes will be given away as the last three prizes of the evening.

All registration cards will be returned to the "cage" for this drawing.

These cash prizes are courtesy of SOUTHERN ILLINOIS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Don't forget the EARLY BIRD prizes. Come early and register for this drawing. Members must be present for ALL prizes.

State of Illinois    )  
                                  )  
County of Union    )

### Proof Of Mailing

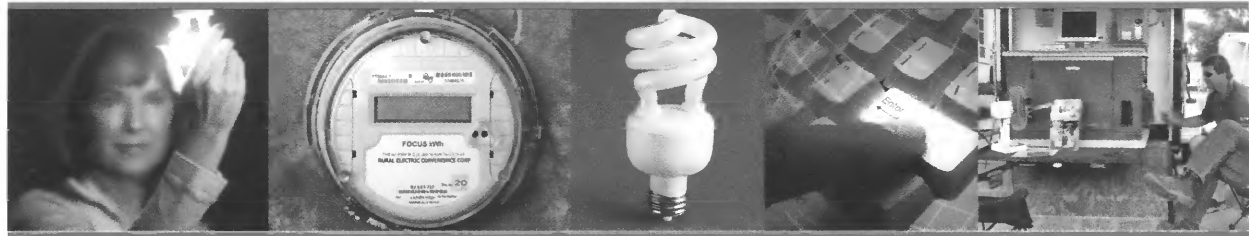
I, Dale E. Taake, being duly sworn, on oath, state that I am duly elected, qualified and am acting secretary of the Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, (hereinafter called the cooperative) that on the 28th day of July, 2008, every member of the cooperative was mailed with postage thereon prepaid, a copy of the Illinois Country Living JAMUP that contained a notice of the regular meeting of the members of the cooperative to be held on August 7, 2008, that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the JAMUP containing said notice.

Dale E. Taake, Secretary – Treasurer

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME THIS 28TH DAY OF JULY, 2008.

SEAL

Cathleen Belcher, Notary Public  
256 Twin Springs Loop  
Anna, IL 62906



# Annual Meeting Program

## August 7, 2008

<b>Registration</b>	5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Cut out registration card on the outside cover of magazine to register for door prizes. Each member registering will receive one \$10 credit to apply on their electric bill. In addition, drawings will be before and after the meeting for attendance prizes. Registration will be inside the River Room.
<b>Entertainment</b>	<p>Steve Hornbeak will be performing from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Appearance of beauty contestants in swimsuit competition at 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Early bird prizes will given out at the conclusion of the swimsuit competition.</p>
<b>Meeting Begins</b>	<p>7 p.m.</p> <p>Call to order .....Carole J. Kelley, President</p> <p>Invocation</p> <p>National Anthem ..... Miss SIEC 2007, Stacie Hines</p> <p>Welcome ..... Larry Lovell, Manager</p> <p>Business Meeting</p> <p>Reading of the 2007 Minutes</p> <p>Official Meeting Notice ..... Dale E. Taake, Secretary - Treasurer</p> <p>President's and Manager's Report</p> <p>Nominating Committee Report ..... George Holhubner, Secretary</p> <p>Balloting for Directors ..... Ronald E. Osman, Attorney</p> <p>Unfinished Business</p> <p>New Business</p> <p>Adjournment of Business Meeting</p> <p>Introduction of Visitors</p> <p>Performance by Ms. Ashley Hatfield</p> <p>Completion of 2008 Miss Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative Pageant</p> <p>More Prize Giveaways</p>

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Chairperson Reagor appointed George Holhubner to act as secretary.

A motion was made by Donald E. Masterson to nominate Raymond C. Snell as director for Alexander County. A motion was made by George Holhubner and seconded by Glenn



Seated in the front row left to right are: Glenn Russell Heisner, Union County; George Holhubner, Pulaski County; and, Donald E. Masterson, Alexander County. Standing left to right are: Richard R. Walker, Alexander County; Robert Heisner, Pulaski County; Ira Dugan Tripp, Jr., Union County; Betty Casey, Johnson County; Josh Reagor, Massac County; and Orlis Harris, Massac County.

Russell Heisner to close nominations and nominate by acclamation Raymond C. Snell as director for Alexander County. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Betty Casey to nominate Carole J. Kelley as director for Johnson County. A motion was made by Donald E. Masterson and seconded by Betty Casey, to close nominations and nominate by acclamation Carole J. Kelley as director for Johnson County. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Donald E. Masterson to nominate C. Larry Fisher as director for Massac County. A motion was made by George Holhubner and seconded by Glenn Russell Heisner, to close nominations and nominate by acclamation C. Larry Fisher as director for Massac County. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Betty Casey and seconded by George Holhubner to adjourn. Motion carried. Chairperson Reagor adjourned the meeting.

## Profiles of Board Candidates

**Raymond C. Snell**  
Alexander County



Raymond C. Snell of Thebes was selected by the nominating committee for election to the board of directors to represent Alexander County. He was first elected in August 1978 and has served 30 years as a cooperative director. Snell and his wife, Anna, are retired from farming. They are active members of the Alexander Freewill Baptist Church in Olive Branch.

**Carole J. Kelley**  
Johnson County



The nominating committee has nominated Carole J. Kelley of

Buncombe for election to the cooperative board. Mrs. Kelley graduated from SIU in Edwardsville with a major in mathematics and a minor in accounting. She is a lifelong resident of Johnson County. She and her husband, Allen, are the parents of four children and live on a farm west of Buncombe. Mrs. Kelley was a local 4-H leader, and she was also very active in the cooperative extension service, having served as a board member for Alexander, Johnson, Massac, Pulaski and Union counties. She currently volunteers as Secretary/Treasurer at the Goreville Ministerial Alliance. Mrs. Kelley and her husband are both youth leaders at Grange Hall Church in rural Marion.

**C. Larry Fisher**  
Massac County



C. Larry Fisher of Karnak has been nominated by the nominating committee to represent Massac County. He was appointed to the board in January 1995 to serve the unexpired term of Lawrence Wilke and was elected in August 1995. He and his wife, Jeanie, live on the family farm. They have three children and nine grandchildren. Mr. Fisher currently represents the cooperative on the Southern Illinois Power Cooperative (SIPC) Board. He serves on the Transmission and Power Marketing Committee at SIPC.

# Minutes of the 68th Annual Meeting

The 68th annual meeting of the members of Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative was held at Shawnee Community College, Ullin, Illinois, on August 7, 2007, pursuant to Section 1, Article II of the bylaws and notice of the Secretary dated the 24th day of July, 2007.

Board President Carole Kelley called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. with a quorum present.

SIEC Employee LaRue Parr offered the invocation. The National Anthem was sung by the musical group Blend.

Chris Bennett, Director of Administration and Finance, conducted the drawing for the early bird prizes.

Cooperative Manager Larry Lovell extended a welcome to all members who had come to participate in the annual meeting proceedings. Mr. Lovell introduced the Board of Directors, Carole J. Kelley, Board President, Johnson County; Dale Faughn, Vice-President, Massac County; Dale E. Taake, Secretary-Treasurer, Pulaski County; Raymond Snell, Alexander County; Larry Fisher, Massac County; Barbara Pitts, Union County; Scott Ury, Union County; and, Richard Moss, Alexander County. Absent from the meeting was G. Robert Inman, Pulaski County. Also introduced was the Cooperative's Attorney, Ronald E. Osman of Marion and Dongola.

Dale Taake, Secretary-Treasurer, read the proof of mailing notice and official meeting notice. Taake introduced a motion to accept and approve the minutes as mailed in the Official Meeting Notice or distributed at registration this evening and to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Motion was seconded by Henry Schnaare. Motion carried.

President Kelley gave the President's report. She then introduced Larry Lovell, General Manager and Executive Vice-President of Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative to give the General Manager's report.

Lovell introduced Betty Casey, Nominating Committee Secretary, to read the nominating committee report. President Kelley asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the nominating committee. The motion was made by Larry Douglas and seconded by Orlis Harris. Motion carried.

President Kelley then announced the Nominating Committee chosen for 2007-2008. They are:

- Alexander County**  
 Delegate - Donald E. Masterson, Olive Branch  
 Alternate - Richard Walker, McClure
- Johnson County**  
 Delegate - Betty Casey, Buncombe  
 Alternate - Patty Allbritten, Belknap
- Massac County**  
 Delegate - Josh Reagor, Karnak  
 Alternate - Orlis Harris, Brookport
- Pulaski County**  
 Delegate - George Holhubner, Olmsted  
 Alternate - Robert Heisner, Grand Chain
- Union County**  
 Delegate - Glenn Heisner, Anna  
 Alternate - Ira Dugan Tripp, Jr., Buncombe

President Kelley introduced Attorney Ronald E. Osman and turned the meeting over to him to conduct the election of directors.

Attorney Osman explained the bylaws as they pertain to the election of directors and stated the nominating committee appointed at the last annual meeting is provided for in these bylaws. He further mentioned the qualifications of directors and the procedure for election of the same.

Attorney Osman explained the three ways of nominating directors, namely, (1) nominations by nominating committee; (2) nominations by petition; and (3) nominations from the floor.

Attorney Osman reported that at the meeting on June 5, 2007, the nominating committee nominated the following individuals for three year terms:

- Alexander County - Richard D. Moss  
 Pulaski County - Dale E. Taake  
 Union County - Scott L. Ury

Attorney Osman then proceeded with the election of directors.

Attorney Osman said that Richard D. Moss has been nominated by the Nominating Committee for election to a three-year term in Alexander County. No nominations by petition have been filed. There were no nominations from the floor. The motion was made by H. C. Lawrence and seconded by Larry Douglas to close nominations and have the secretary cast a unanimous ballot by acclamation. Motion carried.

Attorney Osman said that Dale E. Taake has been nominated by the Nominating Committee for election to a three-year term in Pulaski County. No nominations by petition have been filed. There were no nominations from the floor. A motion by Henry Schnaare and seconded by H. C. Lawrence was made to close nominations and have the secretary cast a unanimous ballot by acclamation. Motion carried.

Attorney Osman said that Scott L. Ury has been nominated by the Nominating Committee for election to a three-year term in Union County. No nominations by petition have been filed. There were no nominations from the floor. A motion was made by Orlis Harris and seconded by Larry E. Theis to close nominations and have the secretary cast a unanimous ballot by acclamation. Motion carried.

President Kelley asked if there was any unfinished business. There was none.

President Kelley then asked if there was any new business. There was none.

President Kelley then asked for a motion to adjourn the business portion of the meeting. The motion was made by Orlis Harris and seconded by Larry E. Theis. Motion carried.

President Kelley then asked Mr. Lovell to return to the podium to recognize visitors for the evening. Lovell introduced the staff members from the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives

in Springfield, Illinois. In attendance were: John Freitag, Vice President of Operations; John Lowrey, Manager of Information and Editor of Illinois Country Living Magazine; Frank Seward, Field Services Representative; and Ken Macken, Safety Instructor along with his wife, Melia and his son, Sam. Also introduced was Tim Reeves, President and CEO of Southern Illinois Power Cooperative at the Lake of Egypt.

President Kelley and Mr. Lovell presented a service award for 25 years of service with the Cooperative to SIEC Director, Richard D. Moss. Cooperative employee Roger D. Acuff, who was unable to attend this meeting, was also recognized for his 25 years of service.

President Kelley and Mr. Lovell presented special recognition plaques to SIEC's Youth to Washington Winners, Stephanie Wilson and Aaron Sellars.

Lovell introduced John Freitag, Vice-President of Operations at the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, Springfield, Illinois, and emcee for the beauty pageant.

Freitag explained the rules and prizes of the beauty contest and introduced the judges for the competition: Terri Harfst of Carterville, Illinois, Academic Scholarship Coordinator at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale; Ralph Graham, Marion, Illinois, of Graham & Associates Financial Group, LLC in Marion and Collinsville; and, Bryce Cramer, District Office and Member Services Manager for Egyptian Electric Cooperative in Murphysboro, Illinois.

Freitag stated that prior to the beginning of tonight's annual meeting, the swimsuit portion of the competition was conducted. He introduced the contestants for the evening gown competition. He then asked the contestants to leave the stage while the judges tallied the results of the beauty pageant.

At that time a special prize give-away drawing was held for children 12 and under. Also, several door prizes were awarded to members who were present.

Freitag introduced Laura Ann Dillow, Miss Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative 2006, and invited her to talk about her year representing the cooperative.

The retiring queen crowned Stacie Lynn Hines of Belknap, Miss Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative 2007. First runner-up and Miss Congeniality was Emily Kate Travis of Belknap. Second runner-up was Lorena Godinez of Anna.

Other contestants were: Kaci Rae Clary, Rebecca Douglas, Katherine Addie Inman, Keshia Rose Juarez, Natalie Nicole McCall, Stephanie Rae Wilson and Jade Wolfe.

The directors adjourned to reorganize.

More door prizes were awarded following the beauty pageant.

## BALANCE SHEET ANALYSIS FOR THE YTD AS OF DECEMBER 31

ASSETS AND OTHER DEBITS	2007	2006
Total Utility Plant	\$52,557,711.00	\$50,262,254.00
Accum. Provision for Depreciation	(13,119,982.00)	(12,714,034.00)
Net Utility Plant	\$39,437,729.00	\$37,548,220.00
Total Other Property & Investments	8,948,157.00	8,747,498.00
Total Current & Accrued Assets	<u>2,827,087.00</u>	<u>1,868,987.00</u>
Total Assets & Other Debits	<u>\$51,212,973.00</u>	<u>\$48,164,705.00</u>

LIABILITIES AND OTHER CREDITS	2007	2006
Memberships	\$131,770.00	\$129,860.00
Patronage Capital	24,631,514.00	23,383,144.00
Other Margins & Equities	<u>30,664.00</u>	<u>29,295.00</u>
Total Margins & Equities	\$24,793,948.00	\$23,542,299.00
Total Long-Term Debt	17,258,863.00	17,140,631.00
Total Other Noncurrent Liabilities	4,835,168.00	3,319,205.00
Total Current & Accrued Liabilities	4,306,292.00	4,140,556.00
Deferred Credits	<u>18,702.00</u>	<u>22,014.00</u>
Total Liabilities & Other Credits	<u>\$51,212,973.00</u>	<u>\$48,164,705.00</u>

## STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AS OF DECEMBER 31

	2007	2006
OPERATING REVENUE	\$22,023,440.00	\$20,657,836.00
COST OF PURCHASED POWER	13,117,287.00	12,349,910.00
OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE EXPENSE	<u>5,275,862.00</u>	<u>5,124,766.00</u>
TOTAL OPERATIONS & MAINT EXPENSE	18,393,149.00	17,474,676.00
DEPRECIATION & AMORT. EXPENSE	1,649,588.00	1,568,519.00
INTEREST ON LONG-TERM DEBT	968,771.00	906,552.00
OTHER COST OF ELECTRIC SERVICE	<u>205,907.00</u>	<u>213,844.00</u>
TOTAL COST OF ELECTRIC SERVICE	<u>\$21,217,415.00</u>	<u>\$20,163,591.00</u>
OPERATING MARGINS	\$806,025.00	\$494,245.00
NON-OPERATING MARGINS	<u>445,233.00</u>	<u>785,199.00</u>
NET PATRONAGE CAPITAL OR MARGIN	<u>\$1,251,258.00</u>	<u>\$1,279,444.00</u>

OPERATING STATISTICS	2007	2006
TOTAL KWH PURCHASED	223,322,395	213,397,908
TOTAL KWH SOLD	209,604,929	203,063,649
TOTAL KWH USED BY COOPERATIVE	318,652	388,092
NEW SERVICES ADDED	255	190
SERVICES RETIRED	188	140
NET CHANGES IN TOTAL SERVICES	67	50
TOTAL SERVICES IN PLACE	13,737	13,670
CONNECTED MEMBERS	11,665	11,642
IDLE SERVICES	2,134	2,128
SECURITY LIGHTS IN PLACE	5,200	5,187
MILES OF LINE	2,120	2,118


### Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

7420 U.S. Highway 51 South • P.O. Box 100 • Dongola, Illinois 62926  
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# JAMMUP

published by Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Dongola, Illinois

Your Touchstone Energy Partner 

## Volatile Economy Forces SIEC Rate Increase

Members of Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative (SIEC) attending this year's annual meeting of members learned that the board of directors voted to implement a 12.75 percent rate increase.

Reports on the co-op's financial condition, world energy demand, environmental regulations, a weakened economy, rising fuel, natural gas and coal prices, and legislation were delivered at the meeting held Thursday, Aug. 7 at Shawnee Community College in Ullin.

General Manager and Executive Vice President Larry Lovell said, "Your Board of Directors, management and employees are deeply concerned about the economy and how quickly the cost of producing power is rising."

Lovell added, "SIEC's projected 2009 power costs are 22 percent greater than they were at the time of our last rate increase in September 2006. This is 60 percent of SIEC's total expenses. The other 40 percent of expenses stem from operations, maintenance, consumer accounts, customer service, administrative, general, depreciation, taxes, interest and margins. The estimated 2009 expenses from these categories have gone up 14.2 percent when compared with the year 2006." **Ralph Stroeblein**



From left, Executive Vice President/General Manager Larry Lovell, Raymond C. Snell of Thebes, Carole J. Kelley of Buncombe and C. Larry Fisher of Karnak.

Lovell concluded, "Probably the most important thing we are doing to provide reliable power while still controlling rates is to continually watch for negative legislation that affects co-ops, especially environmental rules to make sure they are fair and attainable and do not put undue burden on our rates."

Board President Carole J. Kelley of Buncombe discussed an upcoming investment in Automated Meter Reading (AMR) technology. Kelley explained, "This innovative

technology can help our Cooperative improve reliability, work outages more efficiently, reduce operational costs and save money." AMR will also provide a convenience for members who will no longer have to physically read their meters and calculate their bills. AMR installation should be completed by the end of 2009.

During the meeting members reelected Carole J. Kelley, Larry Fisher of Karnak and Raymond C.

▶ Continued on page 16b

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► Continued from page 16a

Snell of Thebes to serve three-year terms as directors. Entertainment was provided by Tamms native and Nashville, Tenn. recording artist Steve Hornbeak. Former Miss Il-

linois Ashley Hatfield emceed the beauty pageant, where Jenna Harner of Dongola, daughter of Scott and Janet Harner, was crowned Miss Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative 2008.

For more details about the SIEC annual meeting, photographs and full management and board reports, visit [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop).

Sharon Kay Dover



## 2008 Miss SIEC Beauty Pageant Winners

Four area women were winners in the 55th Miss Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative Beauty Pageant, which was held during the annual meeting of members on Thursday, August 7 at Shawnee Community College in Ullin. From the left stood First Runner-up Kaci Clary of Jonesboro, Miss Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative Jenna Harner of Dongola, Second Runner-up Carly Draper of Alto Pass, and Miss Congeniality Natalie McCall of Jonesboro.

**Turn back to page 9 for more  
annual meeting highlights!**

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# Harvest Workers Urged Caution to Yield Fewer Electrical Accidents

**H**arvest season can yield higher numbers of electrocution, shock and burn injuries. Nationwide, an average of 64 agricultural workers are electrocuted and hundreds more injured in electrical accidents each year.

“Equipment contacting overhead power lines is the leading cause of farm electrocution accidents in the Midwest,” says Bob Aherin, University of Illinois Agricultural Safety Specialist. “Many of these accidents occur near grain bins, when augers make contact with power lines.”

“Make sure everyone who works on the farm knows the location of power lines,” says Michael Logeman, Director of Engineering for Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative (SIEC). “Federal regulations require a 10-foot working clearance from any power lines at all times. Ensuring proper clearance can save lives.” Some equipment safety considerations:

- Always lower portable augers or elevators to their lowest possible level - under 14 feet - before moving or transporting; use care when raising them.
- When moving large equipment or high loads near a power line, always use a spotter or someone to help make sure proper clearances are maintained.
- Be aware of increased height when loading and transporting larger modern tractors with higher antennas.
- Never attempt to raise or move a power line to clear a path!

If equipment comes in contact



(L-R) Serviceman Stanley Treat hands out “LOOK UP FIRST! Electrocution Hazard” safety decals as he discusses electrical safety with SIEC members and farmers, Kenton Thomas and Billy McClarney.

with power lines, stay inside the cab and call for help. Tell others to stay away until SIEC personnel arrive at the scene to make sure power is disconnected. If there is risk of fire and you must leave the area, the proper action is to jump – not step – with both feet hitting the ground at the same time. Do not allow any part of your body to touch the equipment and the ground at the same time. Continue to hop or shuffle to safety, keeping both feet together as you leave the area.

Once you get away from the equipment, never attempt to get back on or even touch the equipment. Many electrocutions occur

when the operator dismounts and, realizing nothing has happened, tries to get back on the equipment.

SIEC provides “LOOK UP FIRST! Electrocution Hazard” safety decals for farmers and equipment operators upon request. It is

**It is very important all farm workers and seasonal employees are informed of electrical hazards and trained in proper procedures to avoid injury.**

very important all farm workers and seasonal employees are informed of electrical hazards and trained in proper procedures to avoid injury. For more information on farm and home electrical safety, visit [www.SafeElectricity.org](http://www.SafeElectricity.org) or [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop). For safety decals, call SIEC’s engineering department at 1-800-762-1400.

## Member prize

In this issue of the JAMUP, we printed the names of three SIEC members who are eligible to receive a \$10 credit toward their utility bill. If you find your name printed in this center section and it’s not part of the story, call Jerri with your account number at 800-762-1400 to claim your prize.

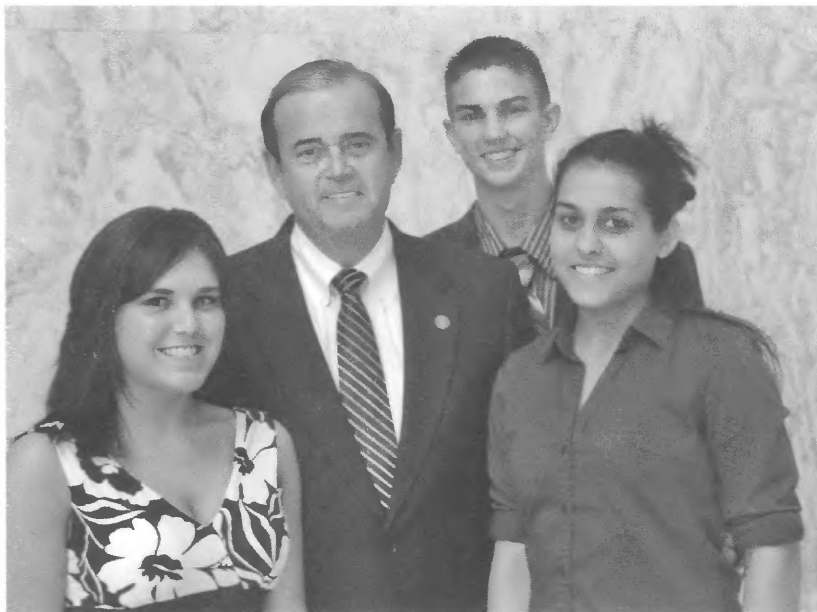
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## Three Students Represent SIEC in Washington D.C.

Ayesha Ahmad of Grand Chain, Stacie Hines of Belknap and Daniel Kerley of Vienna represented Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative in Washington, D.C., during the annual "Youth to Washington" tour, June 13-20. This event, sponsored by the electric and telephone cooperatives of Illinois, began in the late 1950s to introduce rural youths to our democratic form of government and cooperatives.

The students met with Congressman Jerry Costello and were among 66 rural Illinois youth leaders selected for the trip. In addition to the Capitol, they also visited the White House, Arlington National Cemetery, the National Cathedral, the Smithsonian Museums, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, the World War II Memorial, the new Newseum and a number of other historical sites.

Walter Mences



Pictured from left are: Hines, Congressman Costello, Kerley and Ahmad.

## SIEC's newest employee



Casey Adamitis, SIEC's newest employee, began work as Records Specialist in May. Casey lives in Anna and graduated from Cobden High School. She earned a bachelor's degree in Business Management from Mid-Continent University in Kentucky. Casey previously worked in Human Resources at Union County Hospital. She is married to Brandon Adamitis, and they are members of the Dongola United Pentecostal Church.

### Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative Board of Directors

G. Robert Inman (President)..... Pulaski Co.  
 Scott L. Ury (Vice President)..... Union Co.  
 C. Larry Fisher (Secretary-Treasurer).. Massac Co.  
 Dale Faughn ..... Massac Co.  
 Carole J. Kelley ..... Johnson Co.  
 Richard D. Moss..... Alexander Co.  
 Barbara Pitts..... Union Co.  
 Raymond C. Snell ..... Alexander Co.  
 Dale E. Taake ..... Pulaski Co.  
 Ronald E. Osman (Attorney)

Manager Larry Lovell \* Editor Jerri Schaefer

**For Outages Call:**  
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**Our offices will be closed Monday  
 September 1st for Labor Day**

### Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

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# JAMULP

published by Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Dongola, Illinois

Your Touchstone Energy Partner 

## Automated Meter Reading

For the past few years, the Board and management of Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative (SIEC) have been researching the pros and cons of Automated Meter Reading (AMR) technology. AMR allows utilities to read meters directly from their offices. AMR technology uses existing power lines to communicate between the meter and AMR equipment located in the substation. The data is then retrieved from the substation equipment and sent to the offices via communication pathways.

In late 2006, SIEC asked the consulting engineering firm of Toth and Associates, Inc. (Toth) to prepare an AMR analysis. Toth considered the types of systems available, capital costs, expense costs and potential savings attained from eliminating present meter reading expenses. The initial capital outlay will be approximately \$2 million which will be amortized and expensed over 15 years. However, Toth's indepth analysis concluded that the AMR system will actually generate a net savings of nearly \$75,000 per year. The savings occur because of decreased meter reading and processing costs, increased meter accuracy, decreased transportation and fuel costs, and reductions in calculation errors, uncollectible bills and under-reporting of energy usage. Savings are expected to increase over time as inflation impacts SIEC's expenses. Therefore, your Board of Directors and management have decided that it is time to im-



Meter Tester Linemen Sam Brown and Steve Hoffman discuss AMR technology.

plement AMR technology. Installation will begin by late summer and will be fully operational by the end of 2009. The use of this technology will allow us to improve our service to you.

**Raymond Stirling**  
The benefit of AMR technology goes beyond a simple meter reading. This innovative technology can help cooperatives improve reliability, work outages more efficiently, reduce operational costs and save you money. The following lists some of the reasons why we are switching to AMR:

Most members read their own meter and calculate the bill. This system has served the cooperative well for many years, but it is not

without problems and errors. The self read/self bill system has been abandoned by most cooperatives because it is conducive to fraud, errors, misreads and number transpositions. AMR will eliminate most reading and calculation errors and the costs associated with these problems. The collection process will be more efficient and the number of uncollectible bills will be reduced.

Even though most members read their own meters, SIEC personnel have always read small commercial and large power meters every month. This activity will be eliminated, decreasing fuel and transportation expenses.

The new solid state meters

► Continued on page 16b

JOHNSON • ALEXANDER • MASSAC • UNION • PULASKI • POPE

► Continued from page 16a

are more accurate than existing mechanical meters, which tend to under-report energy measurement over time. Meter accuracy improvements will result in additional revenue resulting from under-reporting.

This technology will provide meter readings in a matter of seconds. The number of service orders for disconnecting and reconnecting accounts will decrease. The AMR system can be utilized to read meters for changing accounts over from one individual to another. It can monitor idle accounts for unauthorized usage. All of this will reduce the number of trips linemen make to the actual meter locations, thus saving fuel and improving efficiency.

SIEC's employees read all meters at least once every two years. This will no longer be necessary, decreasing transportation expenses and saving manpower to focus on new construction and maintenance issues.

SIEC is one of the last cooperatives nationwide to still use a self-read/self-bill system. Computer billing software vendors no longer include self-read/self-bill options in their standard package. It is a customized program for which the Cooperative must pay extra. This is especially bothersome when the vendor makes changes to its standard program and it affects our customized program.

One of the most significant changes encountered in switching from self-read/self-bill is the reduction of billing question phone calls, thereby increasing office efficiency.



In this day of rapidly rising power costs, the self-read/self-bill system is inflexible to rate changes. All electric cooperatives must collect enough revenue to maintain certain financial ratios to satisfy their lenders. Some cooperatives are now including power cost adjustments in their monthly billing. Presently, we must guess what the power cost adjustments are going to be several months in advance so they can be included in your electric rates. If we guess wrong, we either over-collect or under-collect the necessary revenue. AMR will give us a tool to more accurately set rates.

Meter testing is an important program required of all utilities. Because new meters are being installed, SIEC meter testing expenses will be minimal during the initial years after installing AMR.

AMR will allow SIEC to monitor the status of protective devices indirectly. It will eliminate the need to call members to see if power is restored because the system can be utilized to verify the outages be-

fore crews leave a geographic area.

An AMR system allows us to monitor the status of meters several times per day. If a member is not at their residence, we may know their power is out before they do. This increases efficiency and improves service.

In addition to meter reading, the AMR system allows for voltage monitoring at the meter. This can be used to help locate distribution equipment (transformers, regulators, etc.) that may need to be upgraded and can help identify unexpected equipment failure due to over loading, thus improving reliability for our members.

The AMR system can provide information to the Cooperative if someone removes a meter, reconnects a disconnected meter, turns a meter upside down or employs other methods of stealing electricity from SIEC (this impacts the cost for all members).

The technology also allows the option for disconnection of services for accounts that are repeatedly on the non-payment disconnect list without physically making a trip to the meter location.

Most of SIEC's neighboring cooperatives have already implemented AMR.

We will keep you informed as the new AMR system is installed. Please continue reading JAMUP and visiting our web site at [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop) for the latest updates.

Crystal Elena Harris

## Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

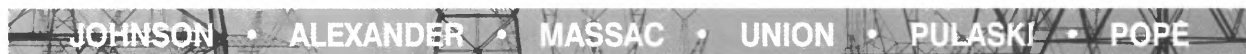
### Board of Directors

G. Robert Inman (President).....	Pulaski Co.		
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Dale Faughn .....	Massac Co.	Raymond C. Snell .....	Alexander Co.
Carole J. Kelley .....	Johnson Co.	Dale E. Taake .....	Pulaski Co.

Ronald E. Osman (Attorney)

Manager Larry Lovell \* Editor Jerri Schaefer

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# Annual Meeting Prize List

VENDOR	PRIZE	Prize Winner	Town	VENDOR	PRIZE	Prize Winner	Town
Southern IL Electric Coop Alltel - Mike Stegle & Charlotte Steins	Kodak Easy Share M820 Digital Frame cooler bag with cozies, pens, coffee mug	Fawn Follis Kenneth Colson	Jonesboro Tammis	Cache River Chevrolet Crown Sales & Support, Inc. Dongola Tri-County Record Easy 2 Pay ETC	Free Oil Change First Alert Smoke & Fire Alarm Pictorial History Book-Ullin \$25 Home Depot Gift Card 2 WearEver Backpack Chairs Polo Shirt & Water Bottle \$25 Electric Bill Credit T-Shirt & \$10 Gift Certificate 2 Navy Foldout Chairs \$25 Gift Certificate \$25 Gift Certificate \$30 Electric Bill Credit Lube, Oil, & Filter & Car Wash \$30 Electric Bill Credit Aloha Breeze Tower Fan \$20 Electric Bill Credit \$25 Credit on Your Electric Account Free Oil Change Rival Crock Pot Free Oil Change Shark Cordless All Surface Power Sweeper \$25 Electric Bill Credit Hand-Crafted Knife Brinkmann LED Halogen Rechargeable Power Sentry TV/DVD Surge Protector First Alert Carbon Monoxide Alarm \$25 Credit on Your Electric Account Kidde Primary Use Fire Extinguisher Free Oil Change Kitchen Selectives Kitchen 3 Pack-Coffee Maker, Can Opener, Toaster \$25 Electric Bill Credit RCA Large 1.4" LED Display dual alarm/clock radio \$30 Electric Bill Credit Kitchen Basket \$30 Electric Bill Credit \$30 Electric Bill Credit \$25 Electric Bill Credit Power Sentry TV/DVD Surge Protector Safety Safe Waterproof Fire Chest 1 Hat & 1 Mini Mag Lite. \$25 Electric Bill Credit \$25 Electric Bill Credit \$25 Credit on Your Electric Account 1 Hat & 1 Mini Mag Lite. \$25 Electric Bill Credit Essentials Around the House Tool Kit Logo Jacket & Hat \$25 Electric Bill Credit Pyrex portables-4 pack \$25 Electric Bill Credit Kidde Primary Use Fire Extinguisher \$25 Credit on Your Electric Account Atomic Wall Clock \$25 Credit on Your Electric Account Logo Tote Bag Stihl Cap & Gloves \$50 Cash \$100 Cash \$300 Cash	Ben Sawyer Larry Westbrook Collin Crews Norman Powles Wayne Miller Charles Holtzclaw Jason Licka Kenneth Cowan Janet Dickerson Pauline Hight Eichhorst Bros Clinton Felker Randy Reagon Jessie Kimmins Jeffery McCrite Wayne Paul Stricker Frank Twente Harold Tapley Geraldine Logan George Modglin Andrew Lessar Bob Hudson Mt Tabor Baptist Church Willis Lance Bob Davis Kenneth Taake Francis Murphy Beverly Sims Thelma's Beauty Box Charles Davis Loren Bayless Glenn Winstead Millford Jones Norma Wiseman James McCrane Melvin Lessar James Badgley James Eaves Valley View Farm Elnora Horton James Harris Dennis Vanderpool Clarence Lang Sr. W R Stokes c/o Audrey Brown Kenneth Wilson Judy Altenberger Bon Kohler Mill Creek Baptist Church Harley Smock Scott Harner Lillian Thompson Harley Ward Anderson Church Charles Bottom Mary Davidson Judy Altenberger Merle Dailey Betty Meyer	Metropolis Tammis Anna Dongola Anna McClure Cobden Elco Karnak Ullin Karnak Ullin Ullin Ulmsted Tammis Karnak Olmsted Karnak Villa Ridge Ullin Tammis Karnak Tammis Tammis Tammis Ongola Ullin Carbondale Pulaski Tammis Vienna Grand Chain Cobden Grand Chain Metropolis Jonesboro Tammis Grand Chain Suncombe Tammis Tammis Metropolis Karnak Karnak Dongola Pulaski Anna Karnak Tammis Mill Creek Brookport Ongola Goreville Karnak Tammis Belknap Karnak Metropolis Metropolis

## Member prize

In this issue of the JAMUR, we printed the names of three SIEC members who are eligible to receive a \$10 credit toward their utility bill. If you find your name printed in this center section and it's not part of the story, call Jerri with your account number at 800-762-1400 to claim your prize.

# Energy Efficiency Questions

- **Why should I consider a Marathon water heater over a tankless water heater?**
- **Will caulking around my windows and doors really help reduce my electric bill?**
- **What are the common sources of high electricity usage in my home?**
- **Should I be worried about the mercury content in a compact fluorescent light bulb?**



Find out the answers to these energy efficiency questions and many more by visiting [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop).

## Jerri Schaefer Holds New Title

SIEC is pleased to announce that Jerri Schaefer holds a new title of Director of Communications. For the past five years with the Cooperative, Jerri has been Staff Assistant and her new title will be more reflective of her role within the organization and the respective job responsibilities. "As my responsibilities have evolved over the past five years, I am pleased to continue to be able to work directly with the employees, board of directors, members and media. I look forward to helping implement all the important things SIEC is working on in 2008 and beyond," commented Jerri.



Jerri Schaefer



## Attention Teachers!

Visit [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop) or call 618-827-3555 and ask for Jerri, if you would like to obtain a 2008-2009 Touchstone Energy Classroom Empowerment Grant application through Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative. Application deadline = November 7, 2008.

### High Speed Internet Status

Unfortunately after many months of research, SIEC is still unable to secure a long term solution for high speed internet in our rural service territory. A few possibilities have surfaced throughout the last three years, but the companies we have studied cannot provide the extensive rural coverage we need and still be cost effective. However, we continue to monitor the options available. If we do find a solution to our service area's need for high speed internet, we will notify our members as soon as possible.

### Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

7420 U.S. Highway 51 South • P.O. Box 100 • Dongola, Illinois 62926  
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# JANUARY

published by Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Dongola, Illinois

Your Touchstone Energy Partner 

## SIEC Live-Line Demonstration Educates Local Students



SIEC Member Scott Miller provided his farm location this fall for Bunge's Progressive Agriculture Safety Days. SIEC's live-line was one of many safety demonstrations taught on this day to approximately 100 fourth and fifth graders from

Egyptian, Shawnee and Cairo schools.

**Tony Fairfield**  
From left, Director of Member Services Chris Boyd, Serviceman Lamar Houston and Crew Foreman Robin Ramage explained how electricity works, showed dangers of elec-

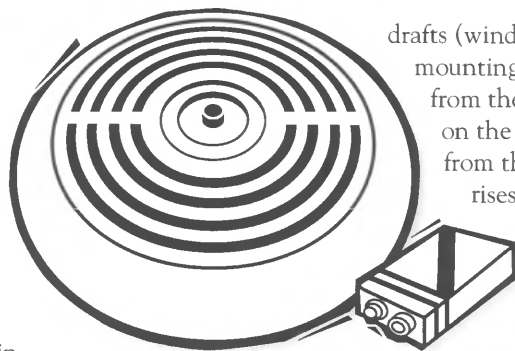
tricity and gave helpful advice about hazardous electrical situations.

Other safety demonstrations provided this day were: grain, farm equipment, fire, lawn equipment, roadway and home alone.

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# How to Install and Maintain Smoke Detectors

Did you remember to set your clocks back and change the batteries in your smoke detectors last month? Properly installed and maintained smoke detectors can reduce your likelihood of dying in a home fire by 51 percent. Follow these tips to keep your family safe:



drafts (windows, doors and ductwork). If mounting on the ceiling, keep 4-inches from the nearest wall. If mounting on the wall, keep 4 to 12 inches from the ceiling. Remember smoke rises, so mount them as high as possible. If the ceiling is pitched, mount at its highest point.

- **What Kind Should I Have?** New homes are required to have an alarm in each sleeping room and all alarms must be interconnected. These hard-wired alarms operate on your electrical current, with battery backup, so when one alarm registers a fire, they all sound. Battery-operated alarms can be easily installed yourself. Choose what works best for your family.

- **How Many Should I Have?** At least one on every level, including the basement. You also need one outside sleeping areas, or, if bedroom doors are kept closed at night, one in each bedroom. You may also consider placing one in your garage or in large open spaces or long hallways.

- **Where Should I Place Them?** Place away from

- **How Do I Maintain Them?** Check alarms once a month. Replace batteries at least once a year. Clean alarms once a year. Never paint over, or place anything on the alarms.

**Note:** When buying new alarms, consider purchasing a combination smoke/carbon monoxide alarm if you do not currently have a carbon monoxide alarm. Since January 2007, all homes that use any fossil fuel appliances or heating units are required to have a working carbon monoxide alarm within 15 feet of all sleeping areas. All-electric homes without fireplaces are the exceptions and do not need the alarms. For more information on smoke and carbon monoxide alarms contact your local fire department.

## 2007 Capital Credit Allocations \$1,251,258.45 2007 Allocation Factor: .04541769

### What does this mean to you?

Margins from 2007 in the amount of \$1,251,258.45 have been allocated to members who received electric service from SIEC during 2007. The factor used for allocation is .04541769. To calculate your specific allocation, multiply the total amount you paid for electricity in 2007 (less state taxes) by the 2007 allocation factor. This is the total amount of capital credits earned and credited to your capital credit account.

When the Board of Directors determine it is financially feasible, SIEC will distribute money back based on capital credits allocated to you in the year marked

for return. SIEC's last capital credit distribution was in 2004 for the usage years of 1982 and 1983.

There will not be a capital credit payment distribution in 2008. If you have questions about your capital credit allocation, please call Bree at 1-800-762-1400.

**Please note:** 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 helpful if you would contact the Cooperative and have the service changed to your name. Sandra Lingle

### **Example: SIEC average residential member - John Doe**

John Doe's total amount (less state taxes) = \$1566.12 paid in 2007  
Multiply \$1566.12 by the 2007 Allocation Factor .04541769 = \$71.13  
John Doe would have \$71.13 allocated to his capital credit account for 2007.

## **Attention Local Teachers!**

# **Apply for Your 2008/2009 Touchstone Energy Classroom Empowerment Grants**

Does your school or classroom need new materials? Can your students benefit from new programs and educational resources? We thought so.

Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative is again coordinating this grant program with Touchstone Energy for our local teachers and administrators. Six \$500 grants will be provided for innovative, unfunded projects or materials. Qualifying projects are those that improve the learning environment or increase educational resources for the school.

A panel of judges will determine which projects will be awarded the \$500 grants. Grant applications are due by **Nov. 7**. Grant awards will be announced on **Dec. 12**. For a grant application and guidelines, please visit our Web site at [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop) or contact Jerri Schaefer at 1-800-762-1400. It only takes a few minutes to apply.

Since 2006, Touchstone Energy Classroom Empowerment Grants have been distributed to the following recipients:

- **Gwen Tripp & Tara Marks**, Fourth Grade, Cobden Elementary School
- **Kim Dillow**, Fourth Grade Science, Lick Creek School
- **Nicole Frick**, Sixth Grade Science, Anna District #27
- **Ryan O'Shea**, Business Education, Cairo High School
- **Jennifer Albate-Barrett**, Second - Sixth Grade, Maple Grove Elementary School
- **Gayla Dial**, Primary Life Skills, Meridian #101
- **Nancy Kerr**, Sixth Grade, Egyptian Middle School
- **Rick Goodman, Jr.** High & Beta Club, Jonesboro School
- **Susan Kaufman**, Kindergarten & First Grade, Don-gola School
- **Sam Erwin**, Eighth Grade Social Studies, Massac Junior High School
- **Mark Laster**, School Wide Project, Anna District #27



**"I would like to thank SIEC for providing the Touchstone Energy Classroom Empowerment Grant funds. With the grant I received, I was able to purchase a flat screen TV, DVD player and microscope. This has provided my students with numerous opportunities in Science. The microscope also functions as a digital camera and recorder. Students can record images and then transfer these images via computer to the TV screen, so the whole class can view the images. This has been a wonderfully educational and creative experience!"** Kimberly Dillow, 4th Grade Science Teacher, Lick Creek School. (2007-2008 Grant Recipient)

- **Jennifer Osman**, Second Grade, Lincoln Primary School
- **Tara Peas**, Sixth - Eighth Grade, Cypress Elementary School
- **Wanda Honey**, Kindergarten - Sixth Grade, Jonesboro School

### **Member prize**

In this issue of the JAMUP, we printed the names of three SIEC members who are eligible to receive a \$10 credit toward their utility bill. If you find your name printed in this center section and it's not part of the story, call Jerri with your account number at 800-762-1400 to claim your prize.

### **Attention High School Seniors!**

The 2009 Illinois Electric Cooperative Memorial Scholarship applications are now available at [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop). Or, call Jerri Schaefer at 1-800-762-1400 to have a scholarship application mailed or faxed to you. The deadline to apply is January 1, 2009.



## Ready To FALL Into Savings On Long Distance Rates?

It's Time To Switch To TWN - Rates As Low As 4.5¢\*/min

*Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative encourages its member to make the switch and start saving today.*

- It's easy, convenient and just makes good sense.
- Business rates as low as 3.5¢\*/min.
- No cost to join. No monthly minimum. No hidden Charges.
- You don't have to be a Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative member to sign up - Tell all your friends and family.

Call  
**1-800-807-1837**  
to sign-up!



\*Taxes and other regulatory charges not included. Domestic rates apply within the contiguous 48 states. Certain restrictions and early termination fees may apply. Business rate is based upon usage minimums. Please call for details. Services provided by TransWorld Network.

### MARATHON WATER HEATER

#### HERE FOR GOOD

50 and 85 gallon water heaters in stock.  
Tank will never rust, corrode or leak.

Call SIEC's Member Services Department for details at  
(800) 762-1400.

### Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative Board of Directors

G. Robert Inman (President).....Pulaski Co.  
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C. Larry Fisher (Secretary-Treasurer) ...Massac Co.  
Dale Faughn .....Massac Co.  
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Barbara Pitts.....Union Co.  
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Dale E. Taake .....Pulaski Co.  
Ronald E. Osman (Attorney)

Manager Larry Lovell \* Editor Jerri Schaefer

**For Outages Call:**  
**800-762-1400 \* 618-827-3555**

# Thanksgiving

**Our offices will be closed  
November 27th & 28th for  
Thanksgiving**


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# JANUARY

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43  
Voluntary and open membership • Voluntary and open membership • Voluntary and open membership

Wish  
ing  
You A  
Happy  
Holiday  
Season

...from the Directors and Employees  
of Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

## DIRECTORS

- |   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| G. Robert Inman<br><i>President</i>           | Carole J. Kelley                   |
| Scott L. Ury<br><i>Vice President</i>         | Richard D. Moss                    |
| C. Larry Fisher<br><i>Secretary-Treasurer</i> | Barbara Pitts                      |
| Dale Faughn                                   | Raymond C. Snell                   |
|   | Dale E. Taake                      |
|   | Ronald E. Osman<br><i>Attorney</i> |

## EMPLOYEES

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| Larry C. Lovell,<br><i>General Manager</i> | Lamar L. Houston, Jr. |
| R. Dennis Abercrombie                      | Larry Joe Keller      |
| Casey Adamitis                             | Linda Keller          |
| Cindy L. Aden                              | Thomas H. Keller      |
| Cathleen Belcher                           | Pamela Lentz          |
| Chris L. Bennett                           | Larry R. Lingle       |
| Pamela K. Bierstedt                        | Lana Livesay          |
| Kelly Bowen                                | Michael L. Logeman    |
| Christopher S. Boyd                        | Lisa Mead             |
| Sam Brown                                  | Nathan Menees         |
| Jeff Cates                                 | Robert Nelson         |
| J. Perry Dailey                            | Jeff Palmer           |
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| Steve Fear                                 | Allen Plott           |
| Terry L. Grissom                           | Robin J. Ramage       |
| Dale Guetersloh                            | John D. Rendleman     |
| John K. Harris                             | Jerri Schaefer        |
| Leslie A. Harvel                           | Aaron Stover          |
| Bree Hileman                               | Stephanie D. Theis    |
| Steven C. Hoffman                          | Todd Thurston         |
| B. Blayne Holshouser                       | Stanley J. Treat      |
|  | Cortney Woodson       |

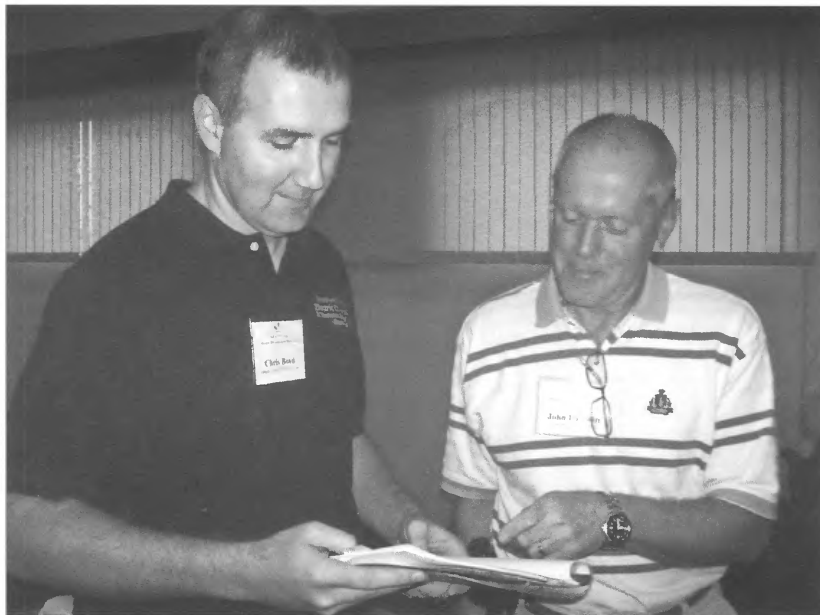
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# SIEC Offers Economic Development Training for Local Organizations

**S**outhern Illinois Electric Cooperative (SIEC) was one of five Touchstone Energy Cooperatives of southern Illinois to host an Economic Development Boot Camp for local organizations. The boot camp was Tuesday, Oct. 14 at the Southern Illinois Power Cooperative at Lake of Egypt and was conducted by Strategic Growth Institute.

The training was designed to help economic development specialists understand the corporate land site choice process so they can maximize their recruiting success rate. Strategic Growth Institute experts discussed why corporations expand and relocate, the strategic process they go through during the site selection process, and what constitutes a quality response to a Request for Information (RFI) for a potential project. **Scott A. Jones**

Participants submitted responses to an RFI for an imaginary manufacturing project, just as they would a real project. The RFI was critiqued by experts from Strategic Growth Institute, who discussed the project response with each organization in a



Director of Member Services Chris Boyd discusses the agenda of the Touchstone Energy Economic Development Boot Camp with Union County Community and Economic Development Program Coordinator John Baldwin.

one-on-one consultation.

Local organizations and representatives at the boot camp were: Candy Eastwood with Shawnee Community College; John Baldwin with the University of Illinois Extension in Union County; Susan

Odum with the University of Illinois Extension in Johnson County; and Lisa Thurston and Tiffany George with the Southern Five Regional Planning Commission.

*Dear Santa,*

*This Christmas, please bring me items that my co-op says will help me save money!*

- 1. An electric blanket*
- 2. Energy-efficient washer and dryer*

- 3. Energy Star dishwasher*
- 4. Low-flow showerhead*
- 5. Programmable thermostat*

*Happy Holidays  
From your Touchstone  
Energy Cooperative*



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# Seven 2009 Illinois Electric Co-op Memorial Scholarships Available

**S**outhern Illinois Electric Cooperative (SIEC) Executive Vice President/General Manager Larry Lovell announces that for the fourteenth consecutive year, the Illinois electric cooperatives will award academic scholarships to high school seniors.

Seven scholarships of \$1,250 each will be awarded in 2009 to eligible high school seniors through the Illinois Electric Cooperative (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program. **Alan Otten**

Four scholarships will be awarded to students who are the sons or daughters of an Illinois electric cooperative member receiving service from the cooperative. A fifth scholarship, the Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship, will be awarded to a student who is the son or daughter of an Illinois electric cooperative employee. The sixth and seventh scholarships are reserved for students enrolling full-time at a two-year Illinois community college who are the sons or daughters of Illinois electric cooperative members, employees or directors.

"We hope to assist electric cooperative youth while honoring past rural electric leaders with this scholarship program," says Larry Lovell. "Our Cooperative is always seeking ways to make a difference in our communities. One of the best ways we can do that is by helping our youth through programs such as this one."

Candidates are judged on the basis of grade point average, college entrance exam scores, work and volunteer



experience, school and civic activities, and a short essay that demonstrates their knowledge of electric cooperatives.

For more information contact Jerri Schaefer at SIEC at 1-800-762-1400 or ask your high school guidance counselor. Scholarship application, brochure and rules can also be downloaded at [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop). The deadline to return completed applications is January 1, 2009.

## Status on Touchstone Energy Classroom Empowerment Grants

Several grant applications are currently being judged by an objective panel. The deadline to return applications was Nov. 7. SIEC local grant winners will be announced on Dec. 12. Good luck to all schools and teachers with project submissions!!

Michelle E. Hill



**Touchstone Energy**<sup>®</sup>  
The power of human connections



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Office



Closing

Thursday, Dec. 25 (Christmas Day) and  
Thursday, Jan. 1 for New Year's Day

## Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative



### Marathon<sup>®</sup> WATER HEATERS

Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative proudly offers the Marathon water heater in 50 and 85 gallon models.

#### Why Marathon?

Because we believe, if you want your water heater to give you years of service, you must get one that will stand the test of time.

Marathon offers a life-time no-leak warranty, guaranteed to last you as long as you own your home. This will save you the future expense of buying a replacement heater and having it installed.

Because it has a plastic tank, the Marathon will not rust or corrode.

If you have any questions, please call our office at 1(800)762-1400 or visit our Web site for detailed information, [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop).

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