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The Wire

McDonough Power Cooperative • Macomb, Illinois 61455



Mike Smith
President and CEO

Join us for the 81st Annual Meeting of Members *Come one, come all!*

McDonough Power Cooperative's Annual Meeting of Members is just around the corner! Mark your calendars for Tuesday, Aug. 21. The meeting is an excellent opportunity for co-op members to gather, share experiences, hear from co-op leadership and, perhaps most importantly, vote to elect your new board members. There are seven cooperative principles that guide us, and the second one is "Democratic Member-Owner Control." This principle is what gives you as a co-op member the privilege of attending the annual meeting and participating in the director elections. A co-op director is a member just like you. He or she represents your district and is your voice in the cooperative. **5419A2-1256C**

This year's annual meeting will be held at The Crossing located at 1600 W Jackson Street in Macomb. Doors will open at 5 p.m. for registration. Between 5:00 and 6:30, enjoy a pork chop sandwich

dinner, grilled by the Macomb Bomber Boosters and served by the Scotland Clever Clovers. The business meeting will follow at approximately 6:30 p.m. Each membership in attendance will receive a \$10 bill credit. Make sure to bring the registration card from this year's Annual Meeting Notice booklet to be entered in additional prize drawings that take place during the business meeting. You must be present to win. McDonough Power employees work hard to host this fun event, and we encourage you to attend and exercise some of the many rights you have as a member of an electric cooperative. We know the food, entertainment and prizes are the best parts of the meeting, but there is so much more to the event. Additional information about the meeting appears in the booklet to be mailed in August. From all of your friends at McDonough Power Cooperative, we hope to see you in August at the annual meeting.





1210 West Jackson Street
P.O. Box 352
Macomb, Illinois
61455-0352

309-833-2101

www.mcdonoughpower.com

Office hours:
7 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Weekdays



DIRECTORS

- Jeff Moore, Chairman
- Walt Lewis, Vice Chairman
- Steve Youngquist, Secretary
- David Lueck, Treasurer
- Jerry Riggins
- Mike Cox
- Bob Dwyer
- Steve Hall
- Steve Lynn
- John D. McMillan, Attorney

**All Co-op Electric
Outages 837-1400**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
The power of human connections



Lobby Day 2018



Powering and empowering the counties we serve is job number one for McDonough Power Cooperative. Some ways that we carry out this mission are as obvious as sending a lineworker up a utility pole to repair a damaged transformer. But equally important to continuing this mission is ensuring that our elected leaders keep the cooperative in mind when crafting laws and regulations that impact us. **6434D7-270C**

On May 15, the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives hosted its first Electric Cooperative Lobby Day. Approximately 75 electric cooperative staff and directors from across the state gathered at the Illinois State Capitol. Co-op representatives had the opportunity to discuss important issues with their respective legislators.

McDonough Power Director Mike Cox, Energy Services Manager Kelly Hamm and Accountant Michele Lovell represented the cooperative in Springfield.



Keep your bills low as temperatures rise

Temperatures outside are rising, but that doesn't mean that utility bills need to. There are steps you can take to make your home more efficient during these hot summer months.

Home efficiency during summer months have a lot in common as the home efficiency checks that you do during the winter months. Make sure that you change your air filters at least monthly to keep your unit running efficiently. Just like checking for cold air leaking in through cracks in the winter, look for any areas that may need weather stripping and caulk where heat could enter your home. **531D5C-950C**

You may be in the habit of setting your thermostat on a lower temperature while you are away during the day to save during the winter months, but now is the time to set that temperature higher. Set your thermostat to around 85 degrees during the day while you are gone. This temperature will keep any pets that may be in the home comfortable but can help to lower your bills.

A programmable thermostat will help you control the temperature of your home, so it is cool when you return home for the day. It is important to remember when adjusting your thermostat, whether it's manual or programmable, do not lower the temperature rapidly to cool your home faster. Your air conditioner will cool just as fast at 78 as it might at 68 degrees.

Ceiling fans are also a great way to keep rooms cool while saving energy. "Fans average between a quarter to one amp used, while air conditioners can range between 12-16 amps of electricity used," says Sam Adair, energy expert. "While running a fan may not exactly bring in new cold air, it does circulate the cold air that is already in the home and may make it feel cooler than it really is." Adair also adds that it is possible to turn on your fans and turn up your thermostat a degree or two and not notice a difference.

Other simple things you can do to keep the cool in include just simply keeping your shades, blinds and drapes closed during the day. A darker room stays cooler longer than a room that has sunlight coming in. Also, consider running stoves, dryers and other heat producing appliances during cooler hours of the day, such as the evening or early morning.

Energy efficiency, whether in the winter or in the summer months, is key for keeping your bills lower and you family comfortable. For more information visit: SafeElectricity.org.

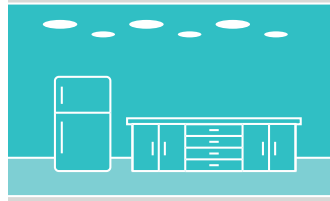
Save Energy with LEDs

LED lights last up to 30 times longer than incandescents, reducing the need to replace bulbs in high or hard-to-reach places. Below are LED lighting suggestions for your home.



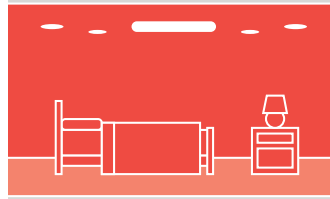
Living Room Lamps

Table or floor three-way lamps using LED bulbs provide 620, 1,600 or 2,150 lumens of soft white light and deliver up to 25,000 hours of light.



Kitchen

Dimmable recessed LED conversion lights add a warm glow of up to 1,200 lumens for kitchen workspaces and add far less heat to your kitchen. Each bulb could last 10 years.



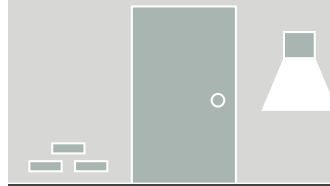
Bedrooms and Hallways

Long-life LEDs are ideal for ceiling fixtures. A 9-watt LED produces the same 800 lumens of light as a 60-watt incandescent, and uses about 80 percent less energy.



Bathrooms

Omnidirectional LED globe bulbs are designed to provide a warm glow ideal for bathrooms. A 6-watt bulb produces 450 lumens and lasts up to 15,000 hours.



Outdoors

A 6-watt, 500 lumen LED bulb can replace a 40-watt incandescent bulb. Designed to last up to 30,000 hours, it could be a one-time switch.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Here's a cool tip for your fridge! Cover liquids and wrap foods stored in your refrigerator. Uncovered foods release moisture, causing the compressor to work harder.

Source: energy.gov

Nominating committee report

Pursuant to the Bylaws, the members of the nominating committee met at Cerar's Barnstormer in Monmouth, Illinois, on June 5, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. to nominate candidates for election as directors at the McDonough Power Cooperative's next annual meeting of members to be held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 21, 2018.

The following members were present:

Todd Dixon	Jerry Davis
Randy Winbigler	Julie Blout
Lynn Shimmin	Marcia Blackledge
Scott Coker	Ray Danielson
Marc Hanson	

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

DISTRICT #2:	Jerry Riggins
DISTRICT #5:	Steve Lynn
DISTRICT #8:	Robert Dwyer

Any 15 or more members acting together may make other nominations by petition.

Scott Coker, Chairman

Almost \$400,000 returned to members

The board of directors has approved a capital credit refund of \$396,226 – It's the Cooperative Difference!

We are issuing checks to current and former members for credits earned in 1989 and 1990. Checks will be mailed mid-August to those who invested during that time.

What are capital credits?

Unlike other utilities, McDonough Power does not exist to earn a profit. Any revenues over and above the cost of doing business are considered margins.

These margins represent an interest-free source of operating capital by you and the rest of the membership to the co-op. This capital allows us to finance operations and new construction, with the intent that this capital be repaid to you in later years. We are currently on a 27.5 year retirement cycle. 5513D3-1256A

How are capital credits calculated?

Every member who purchases electricity during a year in which margins are earned is allocated capital credits. The amount of credits you earn in a year is based upon the amount of capital you contributed to the co-op through payment of your monthly bill. The more electric service you bought, the more capital credits you earned. The sum of your monthly bills for the year is multiplied by an allocation factor to determine your capital credits. The allocation factor varies from year to year, depending on the

success of the co-op. Capital credits are only allocated for a year in which the co-op earns margins. Since credits are a member's share of the margins, no credits are allocated for a year without margins.

Will I receive credits every year?

Each year, the board of directors must approve a capital credit retirement after reviewing the financial health of the co-op. If the board determines that the co-op cannot afford to retire credits, they will not authorize a retirement.

What happens to my capital credits if I leave the co-op service territory?

Your capital credits remain in our system in your name until they are retired. Make sure we always have your current address so we can mail a check to you. We publish lists of names of members we were unable to find in this magazine each year as well as on our website.

What happens to the capital credits of a member who dies?

Capital credits of a deceased member may be paid at a reduced present value without waiting for a general retirement or may be transferred to a surviving spouse if the membership was jointly held; contact Dawn Beck for details.



Member Prizes

Every month we will have four map location numbers hidden throughout The Wire. If you find the map location number that corresponds to the one on your bill (found above the usage graph), call our office and identify your number and the page that it is on. If correct, you will win a \$10 credit on your next electric bill.