


MONROE ELECTRIC NEWS

Waterloo, Illinois • 618.939.7171 • 800.757.7433

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 



Alan W. Wattles

Across The President's Desk

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- Compare usage between months with temp. data
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- Receive bill reminders
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Meet the Employees



Julie Rohr

1. Tell us about yourself and your family.

I married my high school sweetheart, Eric Rohr. We have a daughter who is 6 years old that enjoys drawing and playing volleyball. We also have a 5-year-old son who is obsessed with playing ice hockey and any sport he can. As a family, we enjoy working out and being outdoors.

2. When I was a child, I wanted to be:
A teacher

3. If I could have any meal to eat, it would include:

Pasta carbonara and salad from Rich & Charlie's

4. Describe the best vacation you ever took.

This is a tough one. All my vacations have been memorable. If I had to choose the best one, I'd have to say it was our honeymoon in Riviera Maya in 2010. We spent nine days at a resort with our room overlooking the ocean and beautiful beach. The food was amazing at each of the restaurants, and the best night was when they had the Michael Jackson impersonator. Eric and I relaxed and read books either on the beach or by the pool every day.

5. What was your favorite thing to play as a child?

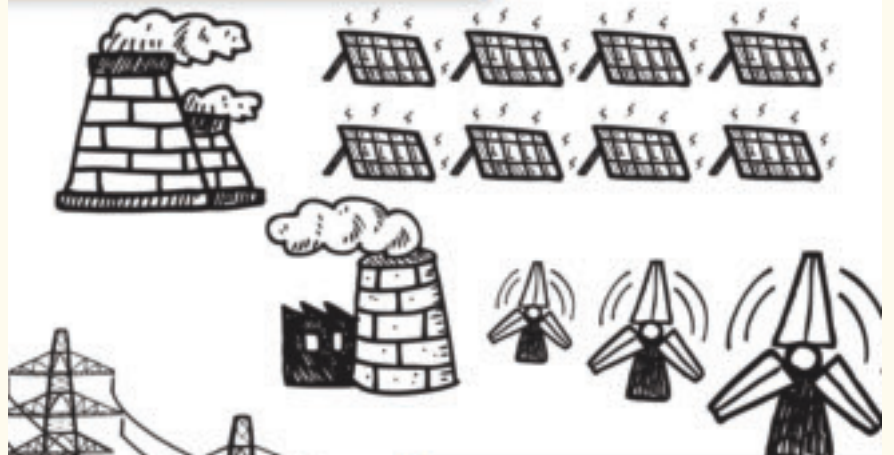
I loved to play sports, but mainly softball

6. What do you see yourself doing after you retire?

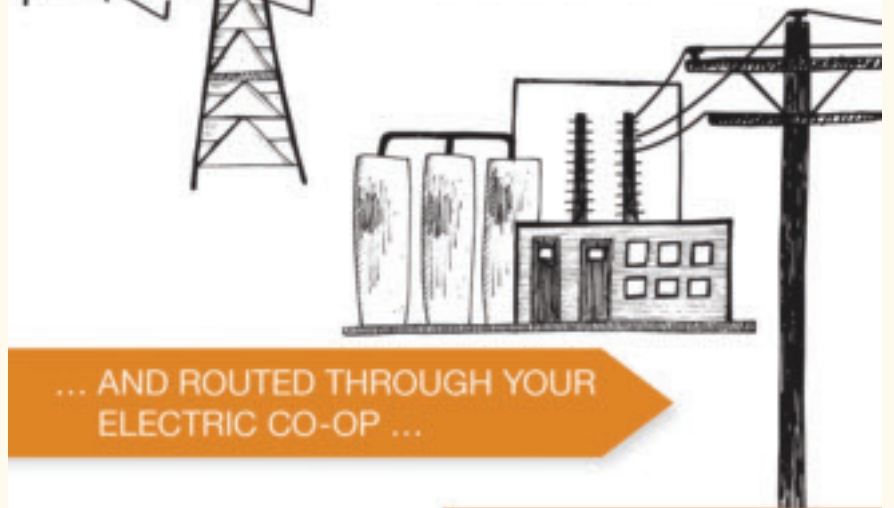
I am hoping my kids are married and we'll have a couple of grandkids to spoil. I would like to be a snowbird and travel to a warm beach during the cold winter months or just move somewhere warm, pending on where my family ends up.

Where does my power come from?

POWER IS GENERATED ...



...THEN SENT OVER TRANSMISSION LINES ...



... AND ROUTED THROUGH YOUR ELECTRIC CO-OP ...



... WHERE IT IS SENT VIA DISTRIBUTION LINES TO YOUR HOME.

Summer interns join co-op

Your cooperative hired two summer interns to work with the line, tree trimming and spraying crews in late May. The two interns were Pat Sondag and Tanner Van Dorn, both of Red Bud.

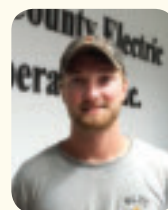


Pat Sondag:

Pat is a 2018 graduate of Red Bud High School and started work at your cooperative on May 22, 2018. His parents are Pat and Bobby Sondag of Red Bud and Allen Gill.

Pat said that he enjoys working at the cooperative and all the employees have been very supportive. He has found that he knows many of the members while on the job with the line crew and tree crews.

His interests outside of work are hunting, fishing and almost anything to do outdoors.



Tanner Van Dorn:

Tanner is a 2017 graduate of Red Bud High School. He is the son of Mike and Donna Van Dorn of Red Bud.

He has worked off and on at Steibel Wood Products in Red Bud during and after high school.

In the fall of 2017, he attended Southeast Lineman Training Center (SLTC) in Trenton, Ga. for four months. He went back to work at

Steibel Wood Products after that and just prior to being hired at your cooperative.

Tanner also enjoys hunting and fishing in his spare time. He said the employees have been very personable and enjoyable to work with.

Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, Inc.

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Office hours:
Monday through Friday 7:00
a.m. to 4:00 p.m. •

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MCEC line outages - July 2018

Date	Duration	# Out	Location	Cause Desc	Substation
07/05/18	4:34	18	Country Estates Dr	OTHER, DETERIORATION	Millstadt
07/05/18	2:22	61	Wirth Rd/Saeger Rd	TREES, OTHER	Millstadt
07/09/18	3:37	12	Chas Young Rd	OTHER, DETERIORATION	East Carondelet
07/13/18	0:30	18	Lou Dell Subdivision	MAINTENANCE	N. Waterloo
07/14/18	2:29	13	Rt 163	LIGHTNING	East Carondelet
07/14/18	2:50	3	Otten Rd	LIGHTNING	East Carondelet
07/14/18	2:36	3	Schmidt Ln	LIGHTNING	Smithton
07/14/18	3:01	2	Douglas Rd	LIGHTNING	Smithton
07/14/18	2:32	2	High Prairie School Rd	LIGHTNING	Smithton
07/14/18	1:51	2	Imbs Station Rd	LIGHTNING	East Carondelet
07/17/18	3:24	35	Wirth Rd	EQUIPMENT	Millstadt
07/21/18	1:39	7	Country Acres Ln	OTHER, DETERIORATION	East Carondelet
07/23/18	2:18	232	Coxeyville Rd	OTHER, DETERIORATION	N. Waterloo
07/24/18	2:03	5	Douglas Rd	EQUIPMENT	Smithton
07/28/18	2:13	350	Columbia	POWER SUPPLIER	Columbia
07/29/18	6:00	19	Long Lake Rd	LIGHTNING	Fults
07/30/18	1:35	19	Long Lake Rd	NO CAUSE CODE	Fults

Safe on the bus

On an April morning in 2016, Clint Shults was driving a school bus to take students to an FFA competition in Rangely, Colorado. The team's horse judging coach, Silvia Otabachian-Smith, followed the bus in her car. Heavy, wet snow had been accumulating, and the bus snagged a power line just as it was falling to the ground under the weight of the snow.

"I kind of saw a flash, noticing that the snow had fallen off of one of the power lines," explains Clint. "We started dragging power lines for the next at least 100 yards, and knew we were in pretty tough shape." From behind the bus, Silvia witnessed several bursts of fire.

Fortunately, Clint knew what to do. He brought the bus to a stop so as not to make the situation any worse by bringing down more electrical equipment. "I told my wife to call 911,...and we had everyone remain on the bus," explains Clint. One of the students called Silvia and told her to stay in her car.

"There is such a thing as step voltage, that even though the wire is on the ground as you walk into that scene, you could be stepping into different voltage variations and injure yourself," explains Sheriff Mazzola, first responder on the scene.

Everyone on the bus and first responders waited for a utility employee to arrive and ensure the downed power line was de-energized before anyone stepped off the bus or onto the accident scene.

Safe Electricity wants you to know the steps to take to stay safe if you are in a vehicle that comes into contact with a downed line or power pole:

- Stay calm, and stay inside the vehicle.
- Call 911.
- Warn others to stay away from the vehicle.
- Stay seated, and do not exit the vehicle until utility personnel say it is okay to do so.
- If you must exit the vehicle because it is on fire, jump clear of it with your feet together and without touching the vehicle and ground at the same time. Keeping your feet together, shuffle or "bunny hop" to safety.

For other chaperones who travel with students and might encounter a downed power line, Clint urges, "Do not tell any young person or any passenger to get off the bus." Frank Sampson, manager of operations at White River Electric adds, "Electricity is invisible, and there is no way to determine visually if a wire is energized."

Learn more, and see the story at SafeElectricity.org.

KNOW WHAT TO DO



If your bus, car, or other vehicle makes contact with a downed line, the vehicle and surrounding area could be energized.

1. Do **NOT** leave the car, and warn others to stay away.

2. Call 911 to have the utility notified.



3. Wait until a utility professional has told you it is safe.



The **only** reason to exit the vehicle is if it's on fire.

If the car is on fire, jump clear of the vehicle: **with feet together, and without touching the car and the ground at the same time.**



Continue to hop away with your feet together as far as you can.



Learn more at

Safe Electricity.org