

# HAPPY Holidays

*From the Directors and Employees of  
Shelby Electric Cooperative,  
Shelby Energy Company, and  
PWR-net Wireless Broadband Internet*



## CEO class visits co-op

Shelby Electric Cooperative (SEC) President and CEO Josh Shallenberger recently hosted the Shelby County CEO class at the cooperative's headquarters. Students learned that SEC serves and maintains over 2,000 miles of line, while serving approximately 4.5 members per mile of line.

"CEO" stands for Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities. It is

an experiential learning-based course that uses community relationships to provide an overview of business processes and development for juniors and seniors in Shelby County high schools. Throughout the program, students visit local businesses, learn from guest speakers, participate in operating a class business, write a business plan, and, from concept to reality, build their own legal, functioning business.

Pictured (l-r) front row: Shallenberger, Beau Bennett, MaKayla Watson, Macey Heselton, Valorie Hoover, Kendra Reed, Jocelyn Schultz, Mackenzi Tabbert, Shelby County CEO Facilitator Marla Eversole. Back row: Jack Burton, Josie Gambrill, Malcolm Miller, Joel Bleskey, Rylee Black, Maddie Smothers, Kyle Stauder, Dylan Webster.

**OFFICES**  
*Closed*

Your cooperative offices will be closed on December 24 and 25 to celebrate Christmas. Offices will also be closed on January 1 to celebrate New Year's Day.



**REMINDER:**

December 31, 2018

is the application deadline for the 11 Thomas H. Moore IEC Memorial Scholarships.

Visit [www.shelbyelectric.coop](http://www.shelbyelectric.coop) and click on the "Community" tab for more information or call us toll-free 1-800-677-2612.



**P.O. BOX 560**  
**Shelbyville, IL 62565**  
**Phone: 217-774-3986**  
**or 1-800-677-2612**

**Pay-by-Phone:**  
**1-855-385-9981**  
[www.shelbyelectric.coop](http://www.shelbyelectric.coop)  
[twitter.com/YourCoop](https://twitter.com/YourCoop)  
[facebook.com/YourCoop](https://facebook.com/YourCoop)

**Office Hours:**  
**7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**




Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

## Show you care with safety-minded gifts




From a smart doorbell to a smoke detector, a gift that keeps loved ones safe gives peace of mind and could help save lives. This year give gifts of safety to show you care.

Safe Electricity offers the following tips and gift ideas to help keep everyone on your gift list safer this holiday season and throughout the year.




**For adults**

-  Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
-  A flashlight with extra batteries for emergencies
-  A roadside emergency kit
-  Reflective clothing for runners or walkers
-  Gloves with LED lights or hand-held "knuckle lights" designed for runners
-  A smart doorbell that allows you to see who is at the door.
-  Gift certificates for home services (home maintenance, such as HVAC inspection or chimney sweeping)
-  A fire extinguisher for the kitchen
-  A pack of GFCI (ground fault circuit interrupter) outlets and a gift certificate for a qualified electrician to install them
-  A cozy bed blanket to replace an older electric blanket; those more

than 10 years old are often unsafe

-  Aftermarket safety systems for cars that don't have them, which include features such as forward-collision and lane-departure warnings
-  For vehicles not equipped with them, a rear-view camera and dash cam
-  A pet harness for use in a vehicle; make sure it has earned crash-test certification

**For kids**

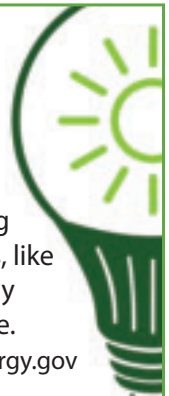
-  Buy age appropriate gifts (see recommendations on box or toy); children younger than age 3 should not have access to toys with small parts
-  Do not forget proper safety gear such as helmets and knee/elbow pads when giving scooters, roller blades, bikes, and other riding toys
-  Many gaming consoles are equipped with internet browsers and chat features that allow players to communicate with each other, so be aware of these capabilities in any game or electronic device

 **For other safety tips, visit**  [SafeElectricity.org](http://SafeElectricity.org).

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Heading out of town for the holidays? Remember to unplug electronics that draw a phantom energy load. Some gadgets, like TVs, gaming consoles, chargers, and DVD players use energy when plugged into an outlet, even when they are not in use.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)



# REAL LIFE REAL POWER

## Getting Real with Marla and drones

Drones, or unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), may seem like new technology; however, they have been airborne for many years. UAS were used during World War II as targets for fighters and anti-aircraft guns. Drone popularity has taken flight in the last few years due to their usefulness and because the technology has become more affordable.

UAS technology and use will continue to reach new heights. From the Drone Law News Blog, I learned that IBM has secured a patent for a coffee drone. This drone is designed to fly around public spaces to deliver cups of java. With this amazing technology, hopefully getting those little plastic lids to fit on well will also improve.

Drones are already being used to help scout and troubleshoot electrical power equipment, especially in areas of rough terrain. That work needs to be left to the professionals, as untrained users should never fly UAS near power lines. Drone crashes with electric lines have caused injuries and major outages. If an accident were to occur, never attempt to retrieve a drone from a power line or power equipment. Additionally, before retrieving anything from a tree, verify no power lines are near the tree(s). Call Shelby Electric (800-677-2612) to report an unsafe situation.

Do any of the people on your Christmas list have visions of receiving a drone this year? Before a novice



*Unmanned Aircraft Systems, commonly known as drones, are becoming more widely used by utilities.*

rushes to try their skill at operating these remote-control systems, new drone operators should be aware of and follow these Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) guidelines:

- Follow all federal guidelines for UAS registration.
- Never fly drones higher than 400 feet.
- Do not fly drones beyond line of sight.
- Do not fly drones near airports, aircraft, stadiums, or people.
- Do not fly drones in bad weather, including high winds.

- Never fly UAS near electrical power lines and equipment.

Drone operators can learn about the legalities associated with flying UAS at [statedronelaw.com/state/illinois](http://statedronelaw.com/state/illinois). This site also has a Restricted Airspace Map available. For more information about drones, search 'Unmanned Aircraft Systems' on the FAA's website, [faa.gov](http://faa.gov).

Only Santa and his reindeer get free reign of the skies this time of year.

*~Marla Eversole,  
Communication Specialist*



### ONLINE BILL PAY

Pay your bills online and monitor usage with the **smarthub** app!



# Co-op linemen are Safety Rodeo champs!

Linemen from Shelby Electric Cooperative (SEC) came out on top at the 21st Annual Lineman's Safety Rodeo winning best overall team and best overall individual apprentice lineman. This event, sponsored by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC), was held Friday, September 28. This year, 13 teams from 11 electric co-ops participated in the friendly competition. The rodeo highlights the skills linemen use to work safely and efficiently.

Brian Chevalier, Jamie Sharp, and Luke Brown represented SEC at the rodeo, held on the Chuck West Lineman Training Grounds at Lincoln Land Community College (LLCC) in Springfield. Chevalier and Sharp competed on a team with EnerStar Electric lineman Russ Camp. Brown competed as an individual apprentice.

The men faced off against teams of linemen from across Illinois in events using skills that focus on agility, speed, and accuracy. While these skills are part of the judging criteria, above all, the linemen are judged on safe work practices.

Line personnel competed in five team events and three individual events. Team and individual events included hurt man rescue, egg climb (linemen climb a pole while holding a raw egg in their mouth), and an H-structure obstacle course. Additionally, teams competed in a neutral down event and a bucket truck obstacle course.

The team of Chevalier, Sharp, and Camp won the best overall team competition. They received first place in hurt man rescue, first place in neutral down, and third place in the bucket truck obstacle course. Brown won the best overall individual apprentice competition and received third place in hurt man rescue. Chevalier received first place in the egg climb and second place in hurt man rescue in the individual lineman competition.



*Pictured (l-r) are SEC Linemen Brian Chevalier and Jamie Sharp along with Enerstar Electric Cooperative Lineman Russ Camp. This trio won the best overall team competition at the Lineman's Safety Rodeo.*



*SEC Lineman Brian Chevalier participated in the neutral down team event, leading his team to a first place finish.*



*SEC Apprentice Lineman Luke Brown captured the best overall individual apprentice competition at the Lineman's Safety Rodeo.*

Scores for each event are based on completion time, proper execution of the task, and safety. Deductions were made to a team or individual's overall performance score due to mistakes such as slipping when climbing poles, dropping tools, or executing inappropriate procedures or methods.

LLCC also hosts a lineman-training program coordinated by the AIEC. Courses are designed for new linemen and to help existing line personnel improve their work skills in safe and efficient ways.

***Congratulations to our linemen on their team and individual efforts!***