# **SEPTEMBER 2021**

NEWSLETTER FOR CO-OP MEMBERS OF ENERSTAR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

# ENERSTAR ELECTRIC CO-OP HOME PAGE

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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative ស

11597 Illinois Highway 1 Paris, IL 61944 800-635-4145 Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



## Annual Meeting Postponed

In light of the recent increase in COVID-19 cases, the EnerStar Electric Cooperative board of directors decided to postpone the annual meeting that was scheduled for September 9 to a later date. Please look for the most upto-date information in our newsletter in Illinois Country Living, EnerStar.com or our Facebook page.

Our offices will be closed on Monday, September 6th for Labor Day.

### Years of service recognized

## We have some really GREAT employees!

EnerStar is fortunate to have employees with many years of experience, and we want to recognize three employees for their years of service. From left to right: Scott Newlin (20 years), Jake Keys (10 years) and Austin Swango (5 years). Thank you for your service to our cooperative!



# Dedicated directors serve the membership

EnerStar wants to thank two co-op directors for their years of service and dedication to the co-op!



**Dan Gard,** who currently serves as chairman of the EnerStar board and is the co-op's representative on the Wabash Valley Power Alliance, has served the co-op for 20 years. In 2012, he earned his Credentialed Cooperative Director certificate.



**Jeff Murphy** represents District 6 in Clark County and has served on the EnerStar board since 2016. In 2021, he earned his Credentialed Cooperative Director certificate.



#### Special THANK YOU

The cooperative would like to express our appreciation to **John Fell** who represented District 4 since 1985 and served as board's Secretary-Treasurer. Fell also earned his Credentialed Cooperative Director certificate in1999. Thank you for your years of service to our cooperative!

# EnerStar, Co-Bank donate to area volunteer fire departments

For the 10th consecutive year, EnerStar Electric Cooperative has been awarded the CoBank Sharing Success matching grant. The grant's purpose is to help cooperatives support causes and organizations important to the communities they serve. To date, \$125,000 in donations have been distributed in the service territory, a fact that the co-op is quite proud of.

This year, 14 volunteer fire departments throughout the co-op's service territory shared the \$20,000 grant and each department received \$1,428.57.

"These organizations play a critical role in the rural communities that EnerStar serves, and we are thankful to these individuals who volunteer," said EnerStar's Angela Griffin. "The funds will be used for a variety of reasons based on each department's specific needs. It was definitely a good use of the funds."

A few items mentioned in the grant applications include thermal imaging camera, new heart defibrillator and funds being used for a 40-hour grain bin rescue class.

As a not-for-profit electric cooperative, EnerStar is guided by seven cooperative principles, which include "Cooperation Among Cooperatives" and "Concern for Community," and this donation is well-suited to those principles.

CoBank, a non-profit, cooperatively owned bank, assists rural America with financial services to agribusiness and rural electricity, water, and communication providers in all 50 states. CoBank matches contributions by its cooperative members to the charitable organizations of their choice on a dollar-for-dollar basis up to \$10,000. The charitable organizations must be established as a non-profit under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Service code. Other potentially eligible organizations include schools, churches, and government organizations, if the donation serves a public purpose and is consistent with the program's purpose and guidelines.



**Coles County:** EnerStar Board Member Jeff Zimmerman (right) presented donations to two fire districts in Coles County. Fire Chief Ed Yoder (left) represented the Hindsboro Community Fire Protection District and Fire Chief Anthony Bennett (middle) represented the Oakland Community Fire Protection District



**Paris Comm**: EnerStar Board Members Dale English and Darin Griffin presented grant checks for \$1428.57 to each to four Fire Departments in the Paris area. Trustees Ben Lueken, Dean Muchow and Scotty Ingrum of the Paris Community Fire Protection District make up the Oliver, Grandview, Redmon and Vermilion Fire Departments. Representing the Oliver Fire Department was Fire Chief Jeff Switzer. Grandview Fire Department was represented by Fire Chief Russ Camp. Vermilion Fire Department was represented by Fire Cheif Rick Easten. Redmon-not pictured. Pictured left to right: English, Griffin, Switzer, Camp, Lueken, Muchow, Easten and Ingrum.



Edgar County: EnerStar Board Members Dale English and Darin Griffin presented CoBank Sharing Success Grant checks to five Edgar County Fire Protection Districts. Representing the Hume Fire Protection District was Fire Chief David Keys and the Assistant Chief Vic Wheeler. Representing Chrisman Fire Protection District was Fire Chief Mike Marvin. Representing the Brocton Fire Protection District was Fire Chief Kraig Key. Representing the Metcalf Fire Protection District are Fire Chief John Morris, Board Trustees Herman Weddle and Nick Barrett. Kansas-not pictured. Pictured left to right: Wheeler, Keys, Marvin, Griffin, English, Key, Morris, Weddle and Barrett.



Clark County: EnerStar Board Members Danny Gard (left) and Jeremy Williams (right) presented CoBank Sharing Success Grant checks for \$1428.57 each to three Clark County Fire Protection Districts. Representing the Marshall Fire Protection District was Fire Chief Paul Hoggatt (inside left) and the West Union Fire Protection Districts was Fire Chief Mike Bumpus (inside right). Martinsville-not pictured.



#### **LENON AID**. An old, clunky heat pump can help inspire you to upgrade to new tech and save!

Some of the coolest new tech for your home will chill you out in the summer and keep you toasty in the winter - while reducing your carbon footprint and lowering your energy costs.

If your home is cooled by an air source heat pump, the system also heats your home in the winter. And if your heat pump is more than 10 years old, it may be time to upgrade to a new system. Fortunately, air source heat pump technology also has improved significantly over the last decade.

A new cold climate air source heat pump will not only provide energy efficient cooling, but it will minimize your energy bills even in winter's brutal cold.

Electric heat pumps have been around for a long time, and

they're among the most efficient ways to cool your home. Air source heat pumps essentially pull heat from the air – in the summer the system pulls the warm air from your home and pumps it outside; in the winter, it pulls the heat from the air outside and pumps that heat into your home. While they are a terrific energy efficient option in the summer, typical heat pumps can lose their efficiency when the temperature drops near 20 degrees Fahrenheit.

Fortunately, advances in compressor technology allow new cold climate heat pumps to gather heat at much lower winter temperatures. When it's 47 degrees or above outside, cold climate heat pumps operate at nearly 400% efficiency (meaning they produce nearly four times the energy they consume). And even when the temperature outside drops to zero, a cold climate heat pump will still operate at about 200% efficiency. That means your system will use a lot less energy – and minimize the use of a backup heat source, saving you money.

Your local electric cooperative even offers Power Moves® rebates for qualifying upgrades to a cold climate air source heat pump! For more information, contact EnerStar's Tim Haddix at 800-635-4145, or visit www.PowerMoves.com.

