

# JAMMUP

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Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

## Merry Christmas

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

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# Eight 2011 IEC Memorial Scholarships available

Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative General Manager Larry Lovell has announced that the Illinois electric cooperatives will again in 2011 award seven academic scholarships to high school seniors through a memorial scholarship fund designed to financially assist deserving students in the “electric cooperative family.” In addition, a new eighth scholarship – to assist with costs in attending an electric lineworker school – will be offered for the first time.

The eight scholarships of \$1,250 each will be awarded in 2011 through the Thomas H. Moore Illinois Electric Cooperatives (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program.

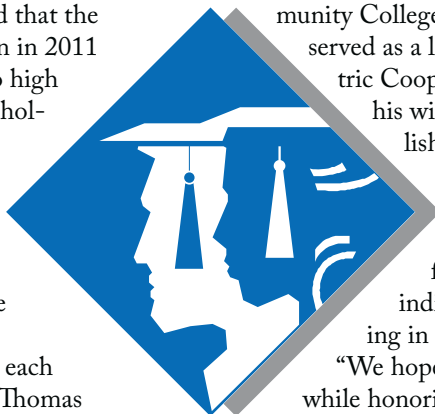
Four scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors who are the sons or daughters of an Illinois electric cooperative member receiving service from the cooperative. A fifth scholarship, the Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship, will be awarded to a student who is the son or daughter of an Illinois 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. **Richard Cerny**

A new eighth annual scholarship, the “LaVern and Nola McEntire Lineworker’s Scholarship,” will be awarded for the first time in 2011. This \$1,250 scholarship will help pay for costs to attend the lineworker’s school conducted by the Association of Illinois Electric

Cooperatives in conjunction with Lincoln Land Community College, Springfield, Ill. LaVern McEntire served as a lineman for McDonough Power Electric Cooperative from 1949 until 1991. He and his wife, Nola, helped to endow and establish the new scholarship to financially assist deserving individuals in becoming trained lineworkers. Relatives of co-op employees or directors are eligible for the lineworker’s scholarship, as are individuals who have served or are serving in the armed forces or National Guard.

“We hope to assist electric cooperative youth while honoring past rural electric leaders with these scholarships,” says Lovell. “Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative and the other Illinois electric cooperatives are 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 like this one. In addition, we are very pleased to offer the new electric lineworker’s scholarship. It will benefit not only electric cooperative youth but also those fine men and women who have served their country through their military service and may now be wanting to become a trained lineworker.”

For more information regarding the scholarships, contact Jerri Schaefer at 1-800-762-1400. All necessary paperwork has also been sent to area high school guidance counselors and is also available for download at the cooperative’s website at [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop).



**Think of others this holiday season by donating canned goods to SIEC’s Lite 4 Bite program. We’ll give you free compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) in exchange for your canned goods. All donations will be distributed to local food pantries within the SIEC service territory. Thank you!**

# Keep holiday celebrations bright and safe!

Don't let electrical accidents darken your holiday celebrations. As you prepare for special holiday and family celebrations, look for and eliminate potential threats posed by holiday lighting, decorating and entertaining.

## Cooking

According to the National Fire Protection Association, cooking has been the leading cause of home fires since 1990. Safe Electricity and Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative (SIEC) offer these tips to avoid shocks and fires in the kitchen:

- Inspect all small appliances and electrical cords to make sure they are in good condition and read operating instructions before use.
- Never plug more than one high-wattage appliance into a single outlet.
- Stay focused and attentive to baking, brewing and simmering foods.
- Keep cooking areas clean and free of grease.
- Make sure a working fire extinguisher is on hand and know how to operate it.
- Make sure the outlets near sinks are equipped with ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCI's) to prevent shocks.

**Dustin Laird**

## Lighting and Decorating

- Before decorating for the holidays, take some simple steps to avoid potential safety hazards. We've all read about tragedies resulting from holiday lighting mishaps. Safeguard yourself and your home so you are not among those.
- Only use lights that have been safely tested and have the UL label.
- Check each light string for broken sockets, frayed cords or faulty plugs.
- Always unplug lights when replacing a bulb.
- Don't string together more than three standard-size sets of lights.
- Place fresh-cut trees away from heat sources and water frequently.



- Do not overload outlets. If necessary, use surge protector strips that have circuit breakers to prevent overloads when multiple outlets are needed.
- Keep electrical cords away from high-traffic areas. Do not run them through doorways or staple, nail or tack cords to the wall. Do not hide them under rugs or carpets.
- For the outdoors, use only lights, cords, animated displays and decorations rated for outdoor use. Cords should be plugged into outlets equipped with GFCI's. Use a portable GFCI if your outdoor outlets don't have them.
- Always unplug lights before going to bed or leaving your home.

For more information visit the Web sites [www.SafeElectricity.org](http://www.SafeElectricity.org) and [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop).

**Did you see the simple tip on page 9 that will help you save money on your electric bill?**



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Electric Cooperative**

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

**SIEC welcomes new  
mechanic Ryan Doctorman**

Ryan Doctorman of Perks began employment with SIEC in October as its mechanic. Ryan brings 4 ½ years experience from Honeywell as a maintenance mechanic. He also has a diploma from the Nashville Auto Diesel College.



In his spare time, Ryan farms and enjoys drag racing diesel trucks. He is married to Ashley and they have two children, Cash and Lexie.

**Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year**

**Southern's Office will be closed  
Friday, December 24  
Friday, December 31**



**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.

**Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative**

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618-827-3555 • Office hours: 8 a.m. — 4 p.m. • Web address: [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop)

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