

# WIEC NEWS

P.O. Box 338 ■ Carthage, Illinois 62321 ■ [www.wiec.net](http://www.wiec.net) ■ 800/576-3125

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

## Nominating committee appointed

**W**IEC's board of directors recently appointed the following members to serve on the 2011 nominating committee:

### District No. 1

Tom Anderson, Carman

### District No. 2

Spencer Berry, Nauvoo

### District No. 3

Ned D. Woolverton, Niota

### District No. 4

Mike Johnson, Basco

### District No. 5

Mike Tracy, Carthage

### District No. 6

Robert Menn, Plymouth and  
Gary Akers, Carthage

### District No. 7

Max Roskamp and Todd Beeler,  
Sutter

Two members are appointed from the (3621-48) districts whose board terms expire each year, with one being appointed from remaining districts. These members will nominate at least one member for a three-year term to represent Districts 6 and 7. Nominees must live in the district they represent.

Rob Gronewold represents District 6 and Janet Spory represents District 7. The first meeting has been scheduled at 7 p.m. March 29 at the WIEC office.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS



**T**he 72<sup>nd</sup> WIEC Annual Meeting will be June 23, 2011. Scheduled speaker for the evening will be Brent Olson, columnist for DTN's *Independently Speaking* and correspondent for *Successful Farming's* online magazine. He lives and farms on his great-grandparent's homestead near Ortonville, Minn.

## Team Bass fishing is alive and well at Illini West High School.

In the two-day 2010 State Championship, the team caught 10 fish weighing over 30 pounds. Read more about the team's success and the sport on page 10.





**Western Illinois**  
ELECTRICAL COOP.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

524 North Madison | P.O. Box 338  
Carthage, IL 62321  
www.wiec.net | 800/576-3125

**OFFICE HOURS**  
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Monday - Friday  
**DURING OFFICE HOURS,**  
**OR AFTER HOURS**  
**TO REPORT OUTAGE**

217-357-3125  
800-576-3125

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- **Rob Gronewold** — President, Carthage
- **Jay Morrison** — Vice President, Niota
- **Janet Spory** — Secretary/Treasurer, Sutter
- **William R. Newton** — Assistant Secretary/Treasurer, Burnside
- **Dave Biery** — Director, Carthage
- **Calvin Baumann** — Director, Basco
- **Mike Ford** — Director, Lomax

### **STAFF**

- **Paul Dion** — Manager
- **Tommie Long** — Manager of Operations
- **Becky Dickinson** — Office Manager

### **MAP LOCATION CONTEST**

Every month we are printing four member's map location numbers in the newsletter. If you find your map location number call the WIEC office by the 25th of the following month, tell us where it is and we will give you a \$10.00 bill credit. Keep on reading the WIEC News.

## Do you have what it takes to be a WIEC director?

The nominating committee will soon be meeting to find qualified candidates for the WIEC board of directors. Have you ever wanted to learn more about your cooperative? Would you like to know where the money comes from and where the money goes? These are the topics you will learn about as a director. Here are a few qualifications that are needed.

### *What a director needs to be:*

- Be accessible to people in their district. While it helps to be sympathetic to the needs of the members, the director must keep the best interest of the entire cooperative in mind;
- Be able to attend most regular board meetings and any special meetings that come up from time to time; (Regular board meetings are usually the 4th Thursday of the month)
- Be an independent thinker, but also a cooperator;
- Be capable of acquiring the knowledge necessary to cope with the issues of a modern electric utility, including finances, management and public issues;
- Have the willingness to listen and learn; (4711-58)

- Be one who can accept and direct change;
- Be of sufficient stature to command the respect of management, employees, fellow board members, cooperative members and the public;
- Be willing to commit adequate time to the work of the board to be an effective member and properly discharge the duties of the board;
- Be willing to accept the unpleasant moments of a director's experience;
- Let management manage.

### *What the board does not do:*

- The board does not oversee WIEC's day-to-day operations. Directors establish policies and point the cooperative in the direction they want employees to follow. The employees decide the best way to get the job done.
- Directors aren't required to be walking encyclopedias about electric utilities when they are elected. But it is their job to become knowledgeable about issues facing Western Illinois Electrical Coop. so they can make intelligent decisions.



Energy Efficiency

*Tip of the Month*

Check your HVAC system's air filter monthly. If it looks dirty, change it. A dirty filter makes your system work harder.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

# Be kind to the earth ...

*Celebrate Earth Day, April 22, with a commitment to clean air*

The average American generates about 24 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per year. This Earth Day, try cutting back with a couple of tips that you can practice throughout the year.

- Check your tires. Keeping your car's tires properly inflated can reduce your carbon footprint by 400-700 pounds a year. **(4616-25-1)**
- Drive with care. By accelerating slowly, maintaining a steady speed, and anticipating stops earlier so you don't have to slam on the brakes, you can cut carbon emissions by more than a ton.



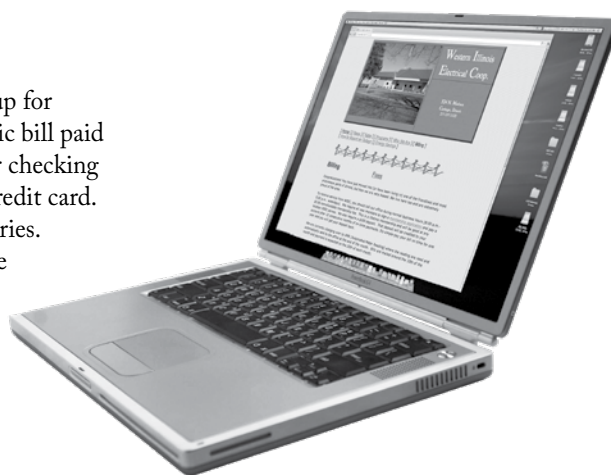
## Be kind to the earth - part II

*Make a commitment to save paper and time*

Think of the paper used to mail your electric payment each month. First, there is the paper from the envelope, the check and even the stamp itself. Now think of the time (isn't your time precious?) and money you'll save by NOT having to write a check each month or the worry about making sure it is paid on time.

WIEC members who sign up for Auto Pay will have their electric bill paid automatically either from their checking **(452-61)** account or by their credit card. No checks, no stamps and worries.

Contact our office for more information or go to [wiec.net](http://wiec.net) to download the necessary forms.



## Welcome New Members

Joe H. Borntrager, LaHarpe  
Scott Bruenger, Loraine,  
Larry B. & Deborah R. Finch,  
Burnside  
H & R Iutzi Ltd Ptr, Hamilton  
Josey E. Huls, Carthage

Adam & Andrea Jones, Tennessee  
David & Marcia Koechle, Nauvoo  
Steven Leek, Burlington, IA  
Laura Iutzi Mosena, Hamilton  
Paetec Communications by Judy  
Boas, Charlotte, NC

Jimmie Lou Repplinger, Hamilton  
Ryan & Amy Shirey, Carthage  
Seth & Ashley Thomas, Gladstone  
Leon & JoAnn Webster, West Point

# Not eggactly a simple food

*The incredible egg: More than just an omelet ingredient*

As you try to figure out what to do with all those leftover Easter eggs at the end of this month, check out these interesting facts that might make for good family trivia at Easter dinner.

- A hen requires 24 to 26 hours to produce an egg. Thirty minutes later, she starts all over again.

- The egg shell may have as many as 17,000 tiny pores over its surface. Through them, the egg can absorb flavors and odors. Storing them in their cartons helps keep them fresh.

- White-shelled eggs are produced by hens with white feathers and ear lobes. Brown-shelled eggs are produced by hens with red feathers and red ear lobes.

- To tell if an egg is raw or hard-cooked, spin it. If the egg spins easily,

it is hard-cooked; if it wobbles, it's raw.

- Egg yolks are one of the few foods that naturally contain Vitamin D.

- Yolk color depends on the diet of the hen. Natural yellow-orange substances such as marigold petals may be added to light-colored feeds to enhance colors. Artificial color additives are not permitted.

- Occasionally, a hen will produce a double-yolked egg. It is rare, but not impossible, for a young hen to produce an egg with no yolk at all.



**On another note, please remember our office will be closed in observance of Easter on Good Friday, April 22.**

## Did you know?

**Cost of power has always been and continues to be a large part of WIEC's expenses.**

### Cost of Power was 69% of WIEC's 2010 Expenses

