

WIEC NEWS

P.O. Box 338 ■ Carthage, Illinois 62321 ■ www.wiec.net ■ 800/576-3125

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



Paul M. Dion
Manager

From the Manager

I'd like to personally invite you to WIEC's Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 24th at the Hancock County Extension Center. It provides the opportunity to visit with the Directors, employees and myself. This year we have a host of things to do before the meeting. There are dilly bars, chips and pop to enjoy while visiting with friends and neighbors. You can visit the Air Evac information booth and have your blood

pressure taken. Be sure to check out the Prairie Power Inc. (PPI) Energy Efficiency Wall. This 18 ft display illustrates what makes a home energy efficient. (For more information about "The Wall", see page 16b.)

This is a business ... you own it.

This is a business that belongs to you, the member. You own it. When you pay your light bill, you are paying for a service from a business that you actually own. Any profits

left over after the cost of providing that service are returned to you. As owner of the business, you actually get to choose the people who control the utility. At this year's meeting, Calvin Baumann and Dave Biery are up for re-election. During the business

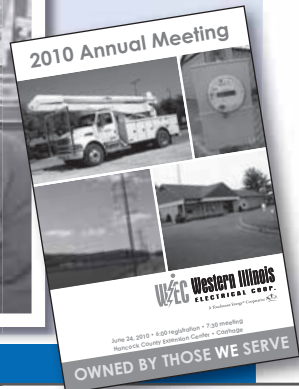
portion of the (7512-17) meeting, members will hear about their cooperative from the board president, board secretary-treasurer and me.

For entertainment this year, we have invited Terry Fleck, the Attitude Doctor to entertain our members. Attitudes are contagious and Terry will help the audience discover if their attitude is worth catching. He uses humor and enthusiasm to deliver his message about the benefits of a positive attitude.

As you can see, there will be lots going on at this year's meeting. All registered members will receive a \$10 bill credit and their name will be included in a drawing for attendance prizes. Who knows, you may even win \$100!

See you the 24th!

Watch for the Annual Meeting Notice in your mailbox. It will contain the registration card, proxy card, and other important information. To save time, please bring the registration card to annual meeting!



Call toll free 800-576-3125



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.

Energy efficiency wall to be displayed

Consumer education on “*What Makes a Home Energy Efficient?*” is the theme of Prairie Power, Inc’s (PPI’s) “*Energy Efficiency Wall*” constructed and utilized by PPI and its member cooperatives, including Western Illinois Electrical Cooperative in Carthage, Ill. The 16-foot “*Energy Efficiency Wall*” illustrates various opportunities for air infiltration or leakage within the common home due to poor construction practices and materials. The display address: *energy efficient construction practices and materials, and energy efficient equipment and technologies*. The proper use of caulking around penetration points in the home’s external walls, such as window and door openings, gas, water, AC and heating system fuel lines and ventilation systems, and the selection and installation of energy efficient insulation materials, ventilation equipment and lighting systems are just a few of the energy



efficient items illustrated in the “Wall.” Utilizing the displays at member cooperatives’ annual membership meetings, NRECA and Touchstone Energy regional events, community college workshops, homebuilder shows, county fairs and other events ... over 358,000 consumers have been exposed to the educational opportunities of the “Energy Efficiency Wall” in 2009. **(681-16)**

This will be on display before and after the Annual Meeting. Be sure to come early so you can take in all this free information that this display has to offer.

Office Closing

**The WIEC office will
close at noon on
Friday, June 25.**

NEW MEMBERS:

Bret Duesterhaus, Loraine
Steve & Carolyn Jones,
West Point
Jessica Kirby, Nauvoo
SF Grain, Niota
John M. Sheldon, Gladstone
Daniel R. Spangler, Carthage
Matthew K. Swanson, LaHarpe
Jeff Thompson, Carthage

WIEC participates in Home program

Rebates available in addition to WIEC rebates



The Illinois electric co-ops are helping homeowner members to get efficient.

Through the Home program, cooperative members who own their homes, can apply for a residential energy assessment, which makes them eligible for a series of rebates for efficiency upgrades they make to their home. The home must be served with electricity by an electric cooperative, and must be the member's primary residence.

The Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives is distributing \$1.5 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) or stimulus funds to cooperative members through this program. The funds are being allocated evenly to members of 25 electric distribution cooperatives in the state. The program begins May 17, 2010.

How does the program work? Start by contacting your local electric cooperative to arrange for a home energy assessment. There is a \$25 charge for this service. Then a cooperative representative will meet with you at your home and do an energy assessment.

The cooperative will provide you with a written follow-up report that will make a series of recommendations on how you might improve your home's energy efficiency – saving money and valuable energy. (8610-62)

Then the next step is up to you. Based upon the recommendations made by the cooperative, you could be eligible for a rebate of up to \$1,500 per residence for improvements you make. Rebates are available for Energy Star-qualifying heating-cooling system upgrades, and for installation of heat pump water heaters. Rebates are also available for installation of insulation and weather stripping/sealing.

Rebate schedule:

- Geothermal heat pump – \$1,500
- Air-source heat pump – \$1,000
- Central air conditioning – \$350*
- Natural gas or LP furnace – \$350*
- Heat pump water heater – \$250
- Insulation – 30 percent of project costs

The maximum total grant is \$1,500 per cooperative member/residence. Grants will be approved for a central air or gas furnace upgrade, but not both.

All heating-cooling system upgrades must meet federal Energy Star standards in order to be eligible. The standards are:

- Geothermal, closed loop: 14.1EER, 3.3 COP
- Geothermal, open loop: 16.2 EER, 3.6 COP
- Air-source heat pump, split: 12.5 EER, 15 SEER
- Air-source heat pump, package: 12 EER, 14 SEER
- Central air conditioning, split: 13 EER, 16 SEER
- Central air conditioning, package: 12 EER, 14 SEER
- Gas furnace: 95 percent efficiency
- Heat pump water heater: 2.0 energy factor

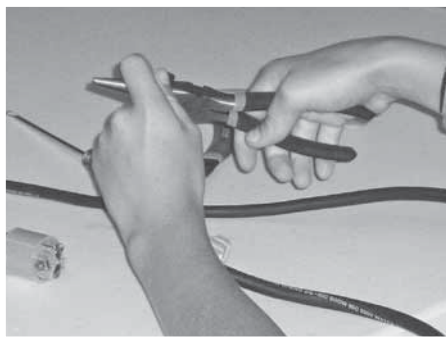
For more information about Home, contact your local electric cooperative or www.aiec.coop. Rebates will be available until funds are exhausted.

Sign up for the 4-H Electricity School

Learn the basics of wiring and electricity

The 2010 4-H Electricity School is co-sponsored by the University of Illinois Extension and Western Illinois Electrical Coop.

Participants will be divided into groups depending on their wiring and electrical experience. WIEC (7618-2) electrician Mark Kissinger will help beginning students learn the basic techniques. The more advanced students will make projects that will challenge them as well. All students will take part in skill



sessions. The cost of the class will be for materials only.

Students should bring a flat

head screwdriver, pliers with a wire cutter, a wire stripper and a pocket knife (with parental consent.)

Who: Children ages 8-18 who live in Hancock or Henderson County. Students do not have to be a member of 4-H to attend.

When: Friday, June 25 from 9 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Where: Hancock County Extension Center in Carthage.

To register or for more information, contact the Extension office at 217-357-2150.

Mr. Frakes goes to Washington

Illini West Sophomore wins trip of a lifetime



Joe Frakes, son of Keith and Beverly Frakes of Carthage, has been named WIEC's "Youth to Washington" tour winner. Joe, a sophomore at Illini West High School, will visit Washington, D.C. with thousands of other high school students from all over the United States. Students will spend the week of June 11-18, 2010 visiting historically significant national sites, touring some of the most moving memorials and browsing the campus of our nation's capital. During their time in D.C., they will ride a river boat down the Potomac, tour the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, and visit the Supreme Court. And those are just a few of the things that are planned. Many participants refer to it "as a trip of a lifetime".

In addition to visiting our nation's capital, Joe also earned a trip to Springfield, Ill. for Youth Day on April 21. He met with Rep. Rich Myers and toured the state capitol. That day, there were approximately 15,000 protesters who came to Springfield as part of the "Save Our State" rally, which tried to influence legislators. Springfield hardly ever sees a larger display of democracy in action.

Joe had an opportunity to hear State Treasurer Alexi Giannoulias and tour the old State Capitol.

WIEC congratulates Joe!

2010 Nominating Committee

Ten members of Western Illinois Electrical Coop. were appointed to the 2010 nominating committee. The committee met at the WIEC office on April 13 and 20 to make nominations for directors. Two directors will be elected at the cooperative's annual meeting on Thursday, June 24.

Attending the meetings were Charlie Ford, Lomax; Spencer Berry, Nauvoo; Ned Woolverton, Niota; Jonathan Fecht and Mike Tracy, Carthage; Robert Menn, Plymouth; Max Roskamp, Sutter.

The following were nominated for director positions:



Some Members of the 2010 Nominating Committee: (l-r) Mike Tracy, Jonathan Fecht, Robert Menn, Max Roskamp and Charlie Ford.

- District 4 – Calvin W. Baumann, Basco
- District 5 – Dave Biery, Carthage

The nominations have been posted at the Carthage office, as

stipulated by the cooperative's by-laws. Any nominations made by petition will be included on the official ballot if they are brought to the WIEC office at least 10 days before the meeting. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the annual meeting.