

JAMMUP

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Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

75th anniversary

It's going to be a fun year at SIEC. It's our 75th anniversary of serving electricity to you! (You, the people who "OWN" our Co-op ... our members.) Many of you may not realize the special connection you have by being part of Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative. Your \$5 membership fee entitles you to having a voice in our future.

When you think of having a "membership" to an establishment, it's probably to a fitness gym, Sams Club, etc. When you are a member of an electric co-op, this means you are an owner. This is why over 1,000 people attend our annual meetings. This is why we give away capital credits. This is why we are accountable to you.

Shapley R. Hunter

Seventy-five years ago, we supplied electricity for the first time to rural southern Illinois. We came through when investor-owned utilities refused, because they feared it would not be profitable. We've never been in this business for a profit. We have been here for 75 years to serve you reliable electricity at a reasonable rate, because it was and always will be, the right thing to do.

Stay tuned for anniversary announcements in the upcoming months.



**Happy Anniversary
SIEC!**



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HomE Lite version 2.0

Successful co-op energy efficiency rebate program returns

In 2011 the electric cooperatives of Illinois received \$2.5 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act program through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's State Energy Plan. Those funds were in turn distributed as rebates to co-op members for energy efficiency projects. This investment paid real dividends and helped prime the pump for nearly ten times that in energy efficiency investments. Better yet, the energy efficiency improvements will multiply the savings for many, many years.

The HomE energy efficiency rebate program was so successful in creating new jobs for heating and air conditioning contractors, plumbers and insulation installers plus saving energy for co-op members that it is being repeated for a second, but very limited time. **Robert J. Trainor**

If you didn't get a chance to participate in the first round of HomE rebates, now you have a second chance. HomE Lite rebates are available until funding runs out, or until June of this year.

HomE Lite Incentives

Include:

- Geothermal system - \$1,500
- Air-Source Heat Pump (16 SEER or higher) - \$1,000
- Insulation and Weatherization - 50 percent of total project cost, up to \$1,000
- Heat Pump Water Heater - \$250
- Commercial installations - \$500 per ton of capacity, up to a maximum of \$10,000 for geothermal and air source heat pumps.
- Energy Audit by BPI certified auditor - \$300

With the help of the first round of HomE funding, Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative (SIEC) members installed 13 geothermal heat pumps, 46 air-source heat pumps, and 32 members made insulation and weatherization improvements.

SIEC General Manager Larry Lovell says, "We know a lot of members were unable to participate



in the first HomE program for a variety of reasons. All cooperative members are eligible for HomE Lite. These rebates, plus the federal income tax credits that are available for some of the projects, make this a great time to make your home more energy efficient."

For more information, contact Chris Boyd at 1-800-762-1400, extension 208.

Our office will be closed Jan. 21 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Check your electric bill!

There is an information box in the middle of the page on the left side. This box lists the primary contact number we have for your account in case you call in an outage. If this number is not correct, please call us immediately.

2012/2013 Touchstone Energy® Classroom Empowerment Grant Winners:

Lick Creek School in Buncombe
- (Ms. Angie Alsip) – *Educational applications for kindergarten students on an iPad. (Pictured to right.)*

Metropolis Primary School -
(Ms. Jennifer Mizzell) – *Learning resources for kindergarten students on a laptop computer. (Pictured below.)*

Cairo High School - (Mr. Ryan O'Shea) – *Creating a historical documentary of Alexander County with high school students.*

Jefferson Elementary School
in Metropolis – (Ms. Melissa Thomasson) – *Research books for Science Fair "Dinosaur Museum" with 3rd grade students.*

Lincoln Elementary School in
Anna – (Ms. Barbara James) – *Studying stars, constellations and planets with K-2nd grades, gearing up for Family Reading Night "Under the Stars and Beyond".*

Lick Creek School in Buncombe –
(Ms. Kimberly Dillow) – *Practicing educational applications with 4th grade students on a technology tablet.*

Anna Jr. High School – (Ms. Terra Lyerla) – *Challenger Learning Center for 8th grade students – a two hour simulated space mission and hands-on extended classroom activities.*

Through Touchstone Energy, SIEC is proud to provide this annual "Commitment to Community" to enhance educational resources to our local schools.



First row from left: SIEC Dir. of Member Services Chris Boyd, Clayton Smith, Luke Vaughn, Lydia Jerrell, Sophie Smiley. Top row from left: SIEC Board Director Carole Kelley, Sophie Poletti, Kenzie Stover, Brinley Corbit, Choice Henard and Angie Alsip. Not pictured: Kady Grant



First row from left: Kayden Brown, Ava Kommer, Mason Lamer, Harley Sutton. 2nd row: Davin Tatro, Abigail Morgan, Darius Key, Destiny Albany, Trinity Evans, Nolan Shinn. 3rd row: Kristopher Garnett, Aiden Ferguson, Annyah Spence, Mackenzie Nugent, Wilson Hawes, Brendan Conder, Cuyler Fraley Kenneth Kruger, Dillon Patton 4th row: SIEC Board Director David Martin, Jennifer Mizell and SIEC Dir. of Member Services Chris Boyd.



Terry Grissom Retires

After 22 years of service at SIEC, Terry Grissom of Anna retires. He began as a Forestry Journeyman in 1990. He advanced to a Forestry Foreman in 1996. He officially retired from SIEC in Nov. 2012. Terry is married to Sharon and they are members of Anna First Baptist Church. He wishes everyone at SIEC the best of health and truly thanks God for the time he worked here. Congratulations Terry!

Willie Clayton

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



Safety Tip

When taking down your outside Christmas decorations, play it safe. Watch for overhead lines!! Before you begin, go to www.safeelectricity.com and read a few of their holiday safety articles. It could save your life!

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

7420 U.S. Highway 51 South • P.O. Box 100 • Dongola, Illinois 62926
618-827-3555 • Office hours: 8 a.m. — 4 p.m. • Web address: www.siec.coop

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