

CEO class visits WIEC

On Feb 19, the Hancock County Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities (CEO) class visited WIEC. Manager Tommie Long gave the students a brief introduction about WIEC, how we are different than the investor owned utilities and discussed the seven cooperative principles. He also gave a tour of WIEC's office and grounds. There were good questions from the students about our electrical system and how we operate.

Although this is the first year for the CEO program in Hancock County, this program began in Effingham County, Illinois as a way to show students that they don't have to leave the rural area and head to the big cities for jobs. This program plants the seeds of entrepreneurship so these young people have the skills and background necessary to create employment opportunities in their own backyard. The students can explore the possibilities and understand the risks involved. The (6716-40) students are introduced to many businesses, such as WIEC, in Hancock County and talk with area business leaders, many who are CEOs of their own companies.

We are proud of these students and eagerly wait to see what their future holds.



Tommie showed the students an overall view of our system, showing line breakers, capacitors, regulators and associated equipment. Even though this green board has been around since the 1950's, it provides a useful overview of our system.



Ryan Biery shows the students the newest technology in our office, the iPads that will go into the linemen's trucks. They provide an update-to-date map of our system as well as a way to send work orders from the office.



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OFFICE HOURS

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Monday - Friday

BUSINESS OFFICE

217-357-3125

TO REPORT AN OUTAGE

800-576-3125

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- **Rob Gronewold** —
President, Carthage
- **Jay Morrison** —
Vice President, Burnside
- **Janet Spory** —
Secretary/Treasurer, Sutter
- **William Newton** —
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer,
Burnside
- **Mark Burling** —
Director, Carthage
- **Kent Flesner** —
Director, West Point
- **Kim Gullberg** —
Director, Stronghurst

STAFF

- **Tommie Long** — Manager
- **Todd Grotts** — Manager
of Operations
- **Becky Dickinson** — Office
Manager

MAP LOCATION CONTEST

Every month we are printing four members' 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.

2016 Nominating Committee results

The 2016 Nominating Committee met at the WIEC office on March 22 and March 28 to make nominations for directors. Two directors will be elected at the cooperative's annual meeting on Thursday, June 23.

Serving on the committee were Mark Lefler, Stronghurst; Spencer Berry, Nauvoo; Matt Dallas, Dallas City; Dennis Willard, West Point; Jonathan Fecht, Jeremy Kerr and Dave Biery, all of Carthage; Robert Menn, Plymouth; and Max Roskamp, Sutter.

The following were nominated for director positions:

- District 4** – Kent Flesner, West Point
- District 5** – Mark Burling, 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 (5810-9) WIEC office at least 10 days before the meeting. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the annual meeting.



Front (L-R) Dave Biery and Robert Menn
Back (L-R) Dennis Willard, Matt Dallas, Max Roskamp, Jonathan Fecht and Spencer Berry.



**The WIEC office
will be closed for
Memorial Day on
May 30.**

**Please call 1-800-
576-3125 to
report
outages or make
payments.**

WIEC's 2015 Allocation of Margins

One of the major differences between a cooperative and an investor-owned utility is that any monies left over after expenses are paid back to the members in the form of capital credits. Each year, WIEC sends notification to our members explaining what their share of the previous year's margins would be. This

year, members will be receiving their Allocation Notice in the mail around the first part of May. This will tell members the dollar amount of the capital credits they have earned for 2015.

Remember, capital credits are held by the cooperative and will be returned to the member when Western Illinois

Electrical Coop's board of directors decides that the cooperative is strong enough financially to do so. This is for our members' information only and does not need any action on their part. **(561-48)** Please do not pay the allocation amount or subtract this amount from the bill. If there are any questions, please call our office.

Informational meeting held in Lomax



On March 21, WIEC held a member's informational meeting in Lomax at The Pink Tavern. Manager Tommie Long shared information concerning the outages on the Lomax Substation in 2015, WIEC's use of a call center, and the recent rate adjustment which went into effect April 1, 2016.

Members had a chance to ask specific questions and also visit with



WIEC staff and WIEC directors after the meeting. We thank those who attended.

Did you know?

- Did you know that WIEC does not own any substations OR transmission lines?
- Prairie Power Inc. (WIEC's power provider) owns and maintains the six substations serving WIEC members, including Lomax Substation.
- Ameren owns and maintains the high voltage transmission lines used to bring power to the substations.
- WIEC owns and maintains the distribution lines that carries power from substation to member's homes.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Avoid placing lamps or TV sets near your room air-conditioning thermostat. The thermostat senses heat from these appliances, which can cause the air conditioner to run longer than necessary.



Plan to attend WIEC's
Annual Meeting on
June 23, 2016



Welcome New Members

Michael & Heather
Columbus, Niota
Tia Creasy, Carthage
Sheryl Jones, Lomax
Dwight & Sue Foley Mulch,
Burlington, IA
Brandon Stambaugh, Lomax



Two WIEC employees were recently honored for their combined 65 years of service to WIEC and its members. Honored were: (L-R) Donna Cramer, Data Entry Clerk for 40 years, Tommie Long, Manager, and Mark Kissinger, Electrician for 25 years.