

President's



William R. Dodds
President/CEO

Use caution near co-op equipment

By Abby Berry

As you find yourself spending more time outdoors this summer, Spoon River Electric reminds you to exercise caution near electrical equipment maintained by the co-op.

Substations and power lines carry extremely high voltages, and if contact is accidentally made, the results can be dangerous—or even deadly.

Never climb trees near power lines. If you make contact with a tree that is touching a power line, your body could become the path of electricity from the line to the ground. If you encounter an animal trapped in a tree near power lines or inside a substation, do not attempt to remove it—no matter how furry and cute! Call Spoon River or 911 for assistance.

These days, we are seeing more remote-controlled toys, like drones and airplanes, which can be a great way to have fun outdoors. But these gadgets also bring new safety concerns. Remote-controlled toys should never be flown near power lines, substations or other electrical equipment.

Remember these safety tips when flying a remote-controlled toy:

- Keep a safe distance from electrical equipment when you fly. If contact is accidentally made with a power



Don't TOY with your SAFETY

When you are playing outdoors, keep a safe distance from power lines, substations and other equipment your electric co-op uses to send electricity to your home.



Flying remote controlled toys are a great way to have fun, but accidentally making contact with a power line or other electrical equipment can be dangerous and in some cases, even deadly.

- Never fly kites, or remote controlled toys near power lines.
- Stay away from power lines, meters, transformers and electrical boxes.
- Never climb trees near power lines.
- If you get something stuck in a power line, call your electric co-op.
- Never touch or go near a downed power line.

line or a transformer inside a substation, many members of your community could be left without electricity.

- Keep the remote-controlled toy in sight at all times.
- Avoid flying if weather conditions are unfavorable. High winds could cause you to lose control of the remote-controlled toy.

Here at Spoon River, your safety is important to us. We hope you will share the message of electrical safety so that you and others can enjoy plenty of summer days filled with fun!

Spoon River Electric Cooperative

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John Spangler, Marietta

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Spoon River Electric Cooperative – By the Numbers

Miles of line energized: 1,271
Number of members served: 4,808
Number of power poles in territory: 29,255

Spoon River Electric's 79th Annual Meeting

Spoon River Electric Cooperative held its 79th annual meeting, Thursday, June 20, at Farmington Central High School. Members were updated on the Cooperative's 2015 financial results, the director's election, the Spoon River Solar Farm and the new program, Operation Round-Up.

President and CEO, Bill Dodds explained that by the end of 2015, the cooperative had a 213 percent increase in electric operating margins over 2014, a 45 percent increase in total margins and income with net margins of \$694,762. Dodds said, "I'm happy to say Spoon River has passed the downhill side of fewer meters and we're on the upswing with 4,921 meters." Due to increase in meters at the Giant Goose ranch and through hog farm projects, the cooperative is projected to have approximately 5,000 meters by the end of 2016.

Dodds expressed that members can obtain a monthly subscription to receive 200, 400 or 600 Kwh generated by the Spoon River Solar Farm through the Bright Options Program offered through their power supplier, Prairie Power Inc.

Re-elected to the Cooperative's

board were Terry Beam, District 6, Robert Lascelles, District 8, and Jack Clark, District 5.

The Cooperative also awarded a \$1,000 Scholastic Scholarship to Isaac Perrilles a graduate of Spoon River Valley High School. The Scott Parrish Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Erin Lascelles, a V.I.T. High School graduate, by Nancy Parrish and family. A \$1,000 Honorary Scholarship was awarded to Rhiana Huff, a graduate of Lewistown High School. Several other students who live in the Cooperative's service area were awarded \$100 scholarships.

Service awards were presented to employees and directors as follows:

- Lisa Miller – 5 years of service
- Trent Ross – 5 years of service
- Terry Beam – 15 years of board service
- Robert Lascelles – 5 years of board service

During the meeting, members agreed to support Operation Round-Up. The program allows members to provide financial support to community betterment projects. Funding would be

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Is your room air conditioner working overtime? Reduce air leaks by installing rigid foam panels (instead of the commonly used accordion panels) in between the window frame and unit, and secure with duct tape.

Source: energy.gov

donated by the member-owners, who volunteer to round up their monthly electric bill to the next even dollar. Donations are tax deductible.

Members, Carl Parrish, Kenneth Tegtmeier, and Keith Underwood were all recipients of our Grand Prize of a \$100 bill credit.

Entertainment was provided by The Prairieland Band.

Thank you all who made the 79th Spoon River Annual Meeting of Members a success. We hope to see you all next year!

About Spoon River Electric Cooperative

Spoon River Electric Cooperative, a Touchstone Energy Cooperative, serves more than 4,969 members in the Fulton, Knox, McDonough, Peoria and Schuler. The locally owned cooperative has 1,268 miles of lines and a utility plant valued at more than \$27.5 million. This not-for-profit member owned utility service is committed to providing reliability, fiscal stability and increasing the products and services available to enhance their member's quality of life. Learn more at www.srecoop.org.



Entertainment was provided by The Prairieland Band



During Spoon River Electric Cooperative's 79th Annual Meeting of Members, three directors were re-elected to the board. The re-elected directors are (l-r): Terry Beam of Cuba, Robert Lascelles of Ipava and Jack Clark of Lewistown



