



# Spoon River News

## President's Report



William R. Dodds  
President/CEO

## Above and Beyond

*Electric co-op membership offers value far beyond affordable, reliable electricity*

Here at Spoon River Electric Cooperative, we work hard to deliver safe, affordable, and reliable electricity to our nearly 5,000 members every day. But we don't stop there. Because we're a cooperative, we strive to do much more, to find ways of providing real value to you and the communities we serve.

So what exactly does real value mean? Well, in some ways it's basic, like connecting with a real, local person when you call our office, rather than just a recording. It could be finding a copy of Illinois Country Living in your mailbox or inbox every month, which keeps you informed about co-op business and goings-on in Illinois. Or it's getting the lights back on more quickly after a storm, thanks to mutual-aid agreements that bring line crews in from other co-ops to

help us restore power.

Using your Co-op Connections Card to get discounts at local businesses and national retailers is a tangible benefit of being a Spoon River Electric Cooperative member.

October marks National Cooperative Month, when we take time to celebrate co-ops and talk about why our not-for-profit, consumer-owned business model is special. Offering our members real value—and working to improve the quality of life in the communities we serve—is just one way we set ourselves apart. To learn more about cooperatives, visit <http://www.co-opsusa.coop>. And to learn more about your cooperative, visit [www.srecoop.org](http://www.srecoop.org).



**Outgoing Spoon River Electric Cooperative Board Chairman Jack Clark, left, is awarded a plaque by incoming Board Chairman Bernard Marvel at the board's August meeting. Clark served as chairman for 11 years and remains a director on the board.**



# Looking to save on energy bills, but not sure how?

*Spoon River Electric Cooperative is now offering whole-house and walk-through energy audits.*

Josh DeWees and Joe Hedges recently completed coursework and testing for auditor certification from the Building Performance Institute. They will come to your home and show you where air leaks in your home could be costing you money.

There are two levels of energy audits available:

- The whole-house audit is a comprehensive audit that takes several hours. Combustible appliances will be tested for safety and a blower door will be used to simulate weather conditions that aggravate air loss. The auditors will also use an infrared camera to find areas where air sealing and insulation can improve the comfort of your home. You will receive a written report and can also get calculations of how much savings you may realize from upgrading insulation. The cost of this audit for SREC members is \$200.
- The walk-through audit is a lighter version of a whole-house audit. Auditors will examine your

home, discuss comfort issues, review bills and show you areas where air loss can increase energy costs. This is a good opportunity to ask any questions you have about your home's insulation and air sealing. The cost of this audit for SREC members is \$50.

If you're interested in learning more about the benefits of an energy audit, call the Cooperative office at (309) 647-2700.

## Spoon River Electric Cooperative

930 South Fifth Ave, PO Box 340, Canton, IL 61520  
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
309-647-2700 • [www.srecoop.org](http://www.srecoop.org)

**President/CEO**  
William R. Dodds  
[bdodds@srecoop.org](mailto:bdodds@srecoop.org)

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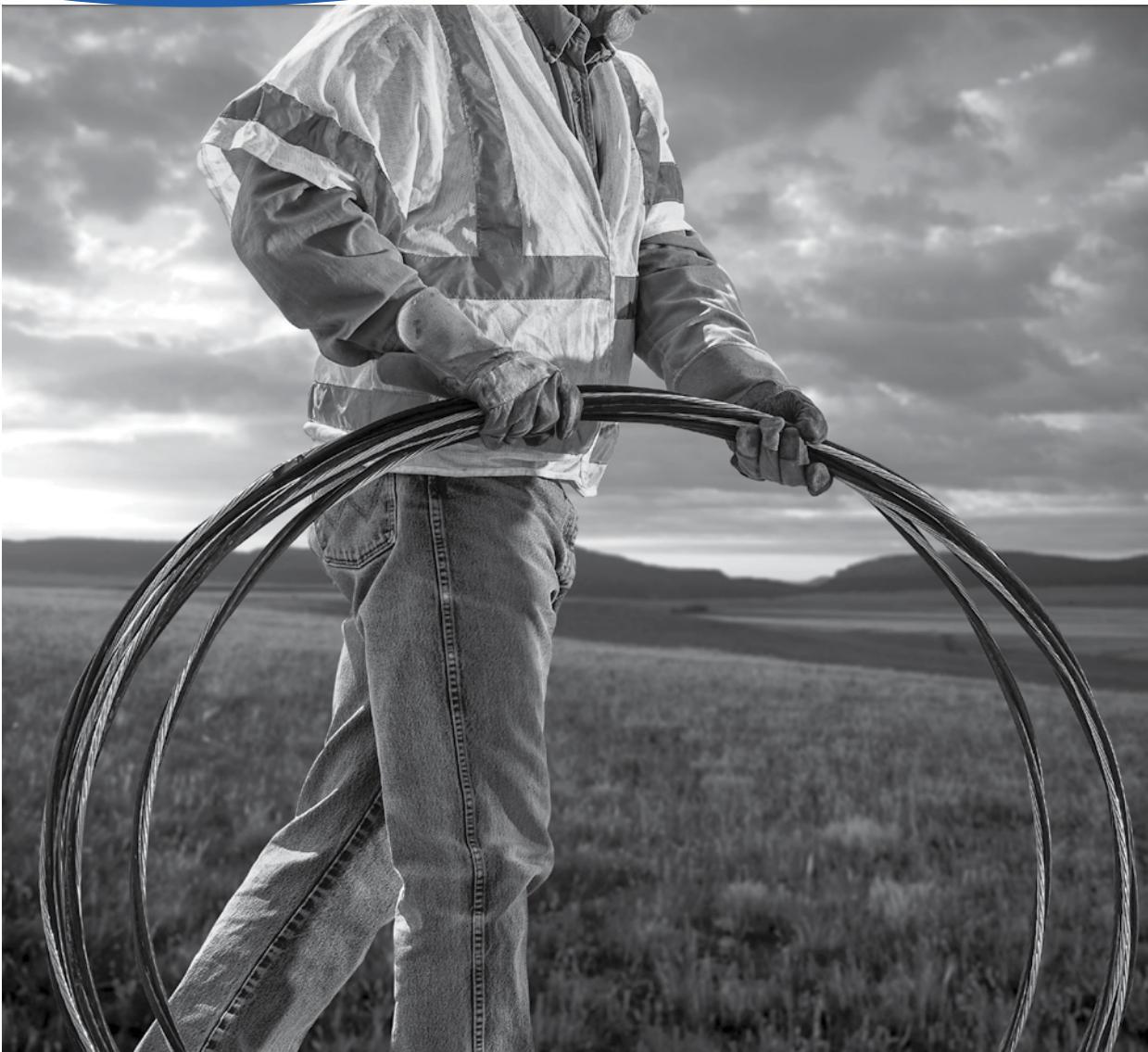
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John Spangler, Marietta

**Editor of Spoon River News**  
Brenda Rothert  
[brothert@srecoop.org](mailto:brothert@srecoop.org)

### Spoon River Electric Cooperative – By the Numbers

Miles of line energized: 1,249 • Number of members served: 4,944  
Number of power poles in territory: 29,255



## Watch for co-op crews working in your area

Spoon River Electric Cooperative employees and contractors work throughout our service territory, including on the rights-of-way and easements, and across your private property and driveways. Our efforts to ensure reliable power for you and your neighbors mean we must cross your property from time to time.

You may see us:

- Making routine repairs
- Restoring power outages
- Replacing meters
- Maintaining vegetation in rights-of-way

- Locating buried utilities for construction and digging projects
- Working to upgrade poles, wires, transformers and equipment
- Inspecting lines, power poles, transformer boxes and equipment

Field work, except emergency power restoration, is done during normal working hours, 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Every effort is made to avoid damage and unnecessary intrusion. There

are times we need to access areas that are secured by locked gates. If you need to have a locked gate for security, please call our office so we can make arrangements for access. The need for access is not always planned, as there are times we need to access areas for power restoration or other emergencies.

If you have concerns about our work on your property, contact our office at (309) 647-2700. We appreciate your cooperation.



## Little witches, goblins and things that go bump in the night

aren't nearly as scary as the things that end up costing you money. To make sure "Boo!" doesn't turn into "Boohoo!" when you get your electric bill, have your furnace checked before winter arrives to ensure it's working properly, and while you're at it change out the filter. Check the seal on your doors and windows and maybe donate that spare refrigerator that's in your basement. For more energy efficiency tips and suggestions, log on at [www.togetherwesave.com](http://www.togetherwesave.com).

