



### More Power to You

# Member Appreciation Day Sets Record with Crowd of 1,370

Shane L. Larson,  
Chief Executive Officer

Wonderful weather combined with perfect pancakes and magnificent members produced another record-breaking Member Appreciation Day for Rock Energy Cooperative.

About 1,370 people visited our Janesville warehouse on the morning of Saturday, Sept. 14, enjoying the camaraderie of belonging to a co-op family. That number topped last year's attendance of 1,200, setting another record for the event, which continues to grow in popularity.

Your co-op's employees and directors sponsor the annual event as a way to express our sincere gratitude to all our great members. The pancake chefs from Chris Cakes not only prepare and serve a terrific breakfast of pancakes and sausages, but they also entertain the crowd by flipping pancakes right onto members' plates.

Food is an important part of any celebration, but MAD—as we affectionately refer to the celebration—wouldn't be complete without bucket truck rides. Hundreds were elevated high into the bright blue sky to get a bird's-eye view of the area, and the young ones enjoyed filling the air with bubbles.

Because MAD is an event that attracts members from various generations, we try to offer activities for all ages. The kids loved jumping in the bounce house and giving CFL Charlie a big hug, while everyone appreciated the amazing talent of the Oregon Jugglers Group. Mercy Health Systems provided health screenings for adults and games for the younger crowd.

The electronics recycling and paper shredding services were big hits with members again this year. A

steady line of cars, trucks, and trailers entered the parking lot to drop off 8.2 tons of electronics and 2.5 tons of paper. The line was so long at times that it caused a traffic jam on Kennedy Road. We're already talking about ways to resolve that issue for next year. After members recycled 6.7 tons of electronics last year, we weren't sure there would be many old TVs and computers left. The guys who helped members unload their vehicles received a good workout, and CFL Charlie even got into the act.

What I enjoy most about MAD is the chance to personally visit with you and offer thanks for allowing us to be your energy provider. Everyone at the co-op appreciates that you took time out of your busy schedule to spend a few hours of fun and friendship with us. Thank you to

all members who attended. For those who couldn't make it, we hope to see you next year. We promise it will be worth the visit.

As always, if we can do anything to improve our service to you, please don't hesitate to give us a call. ■

*CFL Charlie helps with electronics recycling.*



Bucket truck rides and the bounce house are always a hit. To see more MAD photos, visit [www.rock.coop](http://www.rock.coop) and search for Photo Galleries.



# Energy Assistance Available for Low-Income Households

For many Illinois households, energy costs place a severe and continuing stress on the family's budget. In some cases, families will be forced to make painful decisions about which bills to pay and which necessities to cut.

The federally funded Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) helps eligible low-income households pay for winter energy services. Fortunately, Rock Energy Cooperative works with LIHEAP, which benefits about 300,000 Illinois households each year.

## LIHEAP Details

LIHEAP heat and electric assistance is a one-time benefit payment per heating season that is intended to help pay a portion of a household's heat and electric costs. The benefit amount depends on household size, income, and energy costs.

In most cases, the benefit is applied as a credit directly to the household's Rock Energy account. You do not need to duplicate your efforts by applying for assistance with both your local agency and Rock Energy. We will send you a letter about one month after receiving your application that will include details on your assistance status and dollar amounts.

You are eligible for heating assistance if your household's combined income is at or below the levels shown on this chart:

### Illinois LIHEAP Income Guidelines for the 2013–2014 Heating Season

| Household Size | 30-Day Household Income | Annual Household Income |
|----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1              | \$1,436                 | \$17,235                |
| 2              | \$1,939                 | \$23,265                |
| 3              | \$2,441                 | \$29,295                |
| 4              | \$2,944                 | \$35,325                |
| 5              | \$3,446                 | \$41,355                |
| 6              | \$3,949                 | \$47,385                |
| 7              | \$4,451                 | \$53,415                |
| 8              | \$4,954                 | \$59,445                |



## Where to Apply

To apply for assistance, you'll need to complete a Home Energy Plus application and provide information on each household member and their income as well as records of your heating costs.

For more information and application details, please call your local office:

- Winnebago County (South Beloit, Rockton, and Roscoe residents only): (815) 389-0914 or (815) 624-7788, Rockton Township, 1315 N. Blackhawk Blvd., Rockton.
- Boone County: (815) 544-3144, United Way of Boone County, 220 W. Locust St., Belvidere.
- Stephenson County: (815) 232-3141 or (800) 883-1111, Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency, 103-109 N. Chicago Ave., Freeport.
- McHenry County: (815) 338-7752, McHenry County Housing Authority, 1108 N. Seminary Ave., Woodstock.

## Weatherization Services

When you apply for energy assistance, the local agency also will see if you qualify for the Weatherization Assistance Program, which helps fund energy efficiency home improvement projects. If you are eligible for weatherization services, an energy auditor will look at your home to see what can be done to make it more energy efficient. Weatherization services differ with each home, depending on how it was built and its condition.

For general information, call toll-free (877) 411-9276 or visit [www.illinoisliheap.com](http://www.illinoisliheap.com). ■

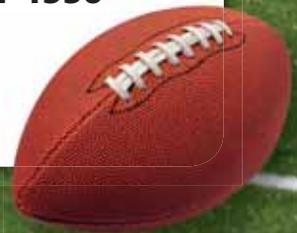
# Rock Linemen Power Our Members



During this football season and throughout the year, Rock's linemen provide the power you need.

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**(866) 752-4550**



## Director Nominations Open

The Rock Energy Cooperative Nominating Committee will be selecting candidates to run for board of director positions that will be up for election at the March 31, 2014, annual meeting. Districts up for election are:

- **District 6:** Beloit and Rock townships in Wisconsin; Rockton Township in Illinois.
- **District 7:** Newark and Plymouth townships in Wisconsin.
- **District 8:** Avon, Spring Valley, and Spring Grove townships in Wisconsin; Durand, Laona, Shirland, Rock Grove, and Rock Run townships in Illinois.

Active members who are interested in running for a position on the REC Board of Directors must permanently reside in one of the areas up for election and meet all other qualifications. Please contact REC headquarters at (608) 752-4550 or (866) 752-4550 or send an e-mail to [questions@rock.coop](mailto:questions@rock.coop) by Dec. 1. ■

## Have a Safe, Happy Thanksgiving!

Rock Energy Cooperative offices will be closed on **Thursday, Nov. 28, and Friday, Nov. 29**, in observance of Thanksgiving. We will reopen at 7:30 a.m. Monday, Dec. 2. Members can make payments in the drop boxes at both offices throughout the holiday weekend. Standby crews are always available 24 hours a day. If you need to report a power outage, please call (608) 752-4550 or toll-free (866) 752-4550.

## Scholarships Offered to High School Seniors

Rock Energy Cooperative again is offering scholarships of \$500 to graduating high school seniors who enroll at an accredited school. Students whose parents or guardians are active members of REC are eligible.

Our independent scholarship committee will judge applicants based on general merit, cooperation, leadership abilities, financial need, and class ranking.

Since 1989, Rock Energy has awarded more than \$77,000 in financial aid to deserving students.

An application form must be completed by the student as well as by the student's guidance counselor. Applications are available at area high schools, at our Janesville and South Beloit offices, and online at [www.rock.coop](http://www.rock.coop). Just click on Your Benefits.

The deadline for returning completed applications is Jan. 13. If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Uebelacker at (866) 752-4550 or [barbu@rock.coop](mailto:barbu@rock.coop).

In addition, scholarships of \$1,500 will be awarded through the Thomas H. Moore Illinois Electric Cooperatives (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program. These scholarships are available to high school seniors who are the sons or daughters of an Illinois electric cooperative member receiving service from the co-op. Applications are available at area high schools, our co-op offices, and online. The deadline is Dec. 31. ■

### Get Connected

Check out these great deals offered with your Co-op Connections Card.



**Schultz Power Equipment, 1223 Madison Road, Beloit – (608) 364-4848 – [www.schultz-power.com](http://www.schultz-power.com)**

Beloit's professional service center, owned by G & D Shoemaker Power Equipment, provides quality products at competitive prices and service by factory-trained technicians. Knowledgeable employees, convenient hours, and a commitment to customer satisfaction. Featuring more than 18 years of experience, we perform minor repairs to complete overhaul and full service on products we sell as well as other major engine brands, including Simplicity, Lawn Boy, Snapper, Stihl, Toro, Ferris, Briggs & Stratton, Honda, Tecumseh, Kohler, and Kawasaki.

**January/February Special - \$10 Off Walk Mower Seasonal Service or \$15 Off Lawn Tractor Seasonal Service plus 10% Off Labor on Tractors (must bring in unit to receive savings)**

**Jax Graphix, 421 W. Milwaukee St., Janesville – (608) 757-0757 – [www.jaxgraphix.net](http://www.jaxgraphix.net)**

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