



### More Power to You

## Member in Need Grateful for Project Lift Up Donations

Shane L. Larson,  
Chief Executive Officer

*"Thank you, from the bottom of my heart for this blessing. I never knew a program like this existed, but I am eternally grateful for this one-time assistance in my hour of need."*

A Rock Energy Cooperative member who received financial help paying her energy bill sent that sincere letter of gratitude to the co-op recently. Although it was addressed to the board of directors, the thankfulness expressed in the letter needs to be shared with all the co-op members who have generously contributed to Project Lift Up over the years.

Project Lift Up, just as the name implies, helps give people a financial lift when they need it most. Rock Energy members can participate in the voluntary donation program by rounding up their monthly energy bill to the

nearest dollar. Those gifts help fund Rock Cooperative Care, an energy assistance program that benefits co-op members who otherwise might fall through the cracks because their incomes are too high to qualify for federal programs but too low to make ends meet.

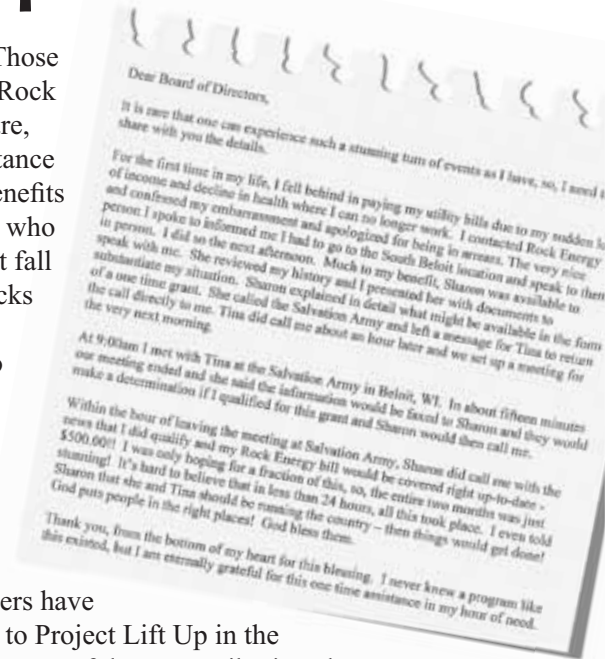
More than 230 members have donated \$8,000 to Project Lift Up in the past four years. Most of those contributions have come in the form of pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters when co-op members round up the amount they pay on their energy bill each month to the nearest whole dollar. Considered separately, that spare change might seem insignificant. But when combined with other offerings, that small amount of money could help your neighbor in a big way.

Project Lift Up is a grassroots program of neighbors helping neighbors and a great example of the seventh principle that Rock Energy and all cooperatives follow: Concern for Community.

As you count your blessings this holiday season, consider rounding up your energy bill and donating your spare change each month to help people who are struggling financially. They may be unemployed, underemployed, dealing with rising costs on a fixed income, or besieged by unplanned medical costs.

Signing up is easy. Just fill out the form on this page and return it to Rock Energy. We'll make sure your donation helps someone who truly needs it. If you already are participating in Project Lift Up, you can help make the holidays brighter for others by adding a one-time donation to your contribution. Whether you're new to the program or increasing your donation, we'll give you three free

*(Continued on page 16d ▶)*



### Yes, I want to make a holiday gift to Project Lift Up and receive 3 free CFLs!

*(Choose only one option.)*

- Round up my monthly energy bill to the nearest whole dollar.
- Add \$1 each month to my budget billing plan.
- Add a monthly donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to my energy bill. (Please enter dollar amount.)
- Add a one-time donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to my next energy bill. (Please enter dollar amount; minimum of \$10 donation required for light bulb offer.)
- I already am enrolled in Project Lift Up but want to add a one-time donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to my next energy bill. (Please enter dollar amount; minimum of \$10 donation required for light bulb offer.)



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_





# 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**



## Rock Cooperative Care Offers Energy Assistance

Some Rock Energy Cooperative members need a little help paying their energy bills. They might earn too much to qualify for state and federal energy assistance, or they might need some extra money to supplement the other programs.

Either way, Rock Cooperative Care is available to help. Since 2010, more than \$80,000 has been distributed to help members.

A one-time grant of up to \$500 is available to help residential members who are struggling to pay their energy bills but do not meet more stringent state and federal requirements.

Check the following chart to see if your household qualifies for assistance. In addition to the amounts listed, households whose incomes are at 300 percent of the poverty level are eligible for a \$250 grant.

The Salvation Army office administers the Rock Cooperative Care program. If you meet the eligibility requirements, call either of these offices during regular business hours to schedule an appointment: Janesville,

(608) 757-8300, extension 26; Beloit, (608) 365-6572; or Rockford, (815) 972-1135. Be sure to point out that you would like to schedule an appointment to apply for the Rock Cooperative Care program. ■

Rock Cooperative Care Income Guidelines for the 2013-2014 Heating Season*				
Family Size	150% of Poverty Level (eligible for up to a \$500 grant)		200% of Poverty Level (eligible for up to a \$350 grant)	
	30-Day Income	Annual Income	30-Day Income	Annual Income
1	\$1,436	\$17,235	\$1,915	\$22,980
2	\$1,938	\$23,265	\$2,585	\$31,020
3	\$2,441	\$29,295	\$3,255	\$39,060
4	\$2,943	\$35,325	\$3,925	\$47,100
5	\$3,446	\$41,355	\$4,595	\$55,140
6	\$3,948	\$47,385	\$5,265	\$63,180
7	\$4,451	\$53,415	\$5,935	\$71,220
8	\$4,953	\$59,445	\$6,605	\$79,260

\*These figures are based on the Federal Poverty Guidelines for 2013-2014.

### Happy Holidays

Rock Energy Cooperative offices will be closed on Tuesday, Dec. 24, and Wednesday, Dec. 25, in observance of Christmas and Tuesday, Dec. 31, and Wednesday, Jan. 1, for the New Year's holiday. Members can make payments in the drop boxes at both offices throughout the holiday weekends. Even though our offices are closed, 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.



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Janesville, WI 53547

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## Scholarships Offered

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. Applications are available at area high schools, our co-op offices, and online. The deadline is Dec. 31. ■



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*(Continued from page 16a)*

compact fluorescent light bulbs to help you save money on your energy bill. Thanks so much for your generosity.

On the other hand, if you find your circumstances are similar to the letter writer who fell behind on her utility bills due to a sudden loss of income and decline in health, please don't hesitate to request assistance. An article on page 16c of this magazine lists the income guide-lines to qualify for Rock Cooperative Care.

In October Rock Energy lost a longtime friend when David Collins passed away. As Rock Energy's attorney, Dave had been providing legal advice to the co-op since 1974. I want to express the co-op's condolences to his wife, Annie, and the rest of his family. He will be greatly missed.

All of us at Rock Energy sincerely hope that you and your family have a wonderful and safe holiday season. We hope this special time with family and friends is filled with joy and happiness. Thanks for allowing us to be your energy provider during the past year. We promise to give you the same great service during 2014. Please let us know if there's anything we can do to improve. ■

### Get Connected

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



**YMCA of Northern Rock County, 221 Dodge St., Janesville, (608) 754-9622 and 1360 Parkview Drive, Milton, (608) 868-9622 – [www.yמצajanesville.org](http://www.yמצajanesville.org)**

Fitness center. No contracts or cancellation fees; two pools and friendly atmosphere. Free child watch. Youth fitness classes, exercise classes, and indoor cycling. Building strong kids, strong families, and strong communities.

**Free Enrollment (\$75 Value)**

**ZaZu Gift Co., 5494 Elevator Rd. Roscoe – (815) 623-9298 – [www.zazugifts.com](http://www.zazugifts.com)**

A unique store that offers big-shop options with small-store atmosphere. Our special store has something for everybody. Offering gifts, home décor, and apparel along with baby gifts and clothes, bath and body products, holiday merchandise, jewelry and accessories, and so much more. Free gift wrapping is always available.

**\$5 Off (Any Purchase of \$25 or More)**

**\$15 Off (Any Purchase of \$75 or More)**