



Egyptian Electric News

1732 Finney Road • Murphysboro, IL 62966 • 800-606-1505 • eeca.coop



86th Annual Meeting of the Members: Your go-to key takeaways!

Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association (EECA) held its annual meeting on July 11 at EECA headquarters in Murphysboro. All registered members received a \$20 August bill credit. EECA was delighted to treat members to live music by Honey & Tar, face painting by Brandy's Fancy Faces, jumbo hot dogs, and the always-popular dessert: a Chocolate Dilly Bar. **Anita Scott**

EECA board members worked to address questions, comments and feedback from the membership in the days following the annual meeting, with the aim of making ongoing improvements for the years ahead. If you could not attend the annual meeting, here are the key takeaways we believe will be of interest to our members.

Highlights included:

- In 2023, our percentage of reliability was 99.95% — that means your power was on 99.95 percent of the time. Members experienced a total

outage time of just four hours and 22 minutes — that is great in comparison to state and national averages!

- EECA will be returning \$1,583,320 in Capital Credits this month to members who had service in 1993 and 1994.
- With increasing inflationary pressures, we have been able to avoid a rate increase this year as otherwise anticipated. Your coop strives to balance rate stability, reliability & sustainability.
- Three Directors were re-appointed to our Board, including Randall Campbell of Chester, Paul Hicks of Carbondale, and Paul Pyatt of Pinckneyville.

Key takeaways included:

- On theme with “powerful past — future focused,” we outlined a strategic vision for the future — system reliability,

rate stability, succession planning, regulatory pressures & technological advancement.

- EECA is focusing on succession planning to best attract the workforce of tomorrow and on economic development to ensure Southern Illinois is a desirable and prepared place for all to live and love.
- Your coop will continue concentrating on reliability — power supply, infrastructure, cyber safety, sustainability — now and into the future.
- We are local — our leadership, our employees, our board — and to show our commitment to our communities, we participate in and encourage sign up into our Operation Round Up program. To date, we have given out \$12,750 to local nonprofits.

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Egyptian Electric
Cooperative Association
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

1732 Finney Road
Murphysboro, IL 62966

Business hours/After hours
800-606-1505

24/7 Automated Pay-by-Phone
844-759-3977

Office hours 8 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. M-F
www.eeca.coop

Board of Directors

Kevin Liefer, President
Randall Campbell, Vice President
Kevin Bame, Secretary – Treasurer
Rick Asaturian
Paul Hicks
Mary Jo Homan
Ken Jarrett
Steve Prest
Paul Pyatt



Shane Hermetz
General Manager

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- Off-site kiosks located at 2301 N. Reed Station Parkway and 1815 W. Main in Carbondale

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At the close of the meeting, ten (10) names were drawn to receive \$1,000 scholarships to college-bound students who are EECA members or dependents of members. Scholarship winners were:

- **Caden Robinson**, 2023 Murphysboro High School graduate attending SIU Carbondale
- **Josie Kattenbraker**, 2021 Chester High School graduate attending Southeast Missouri State University
- **Jala Bradley**, 2024 Carbondale Community High School graduate attending University of Tennessee Martin
- **Ellie Searby**, 2024 Du Quoin High School graduate attending SIU Edwardsville
- **Reagan Fager**, 2024 Trico High School graduate attending Wabash Valley College
- **Sarah Hartke**, 2024 Carterville High School graduate attending Maryville University
- **Ryan Finke**, 2021 Murphysboro High School graduate attending Southeast Missouri State University
- **Taylor Kurtz**, 2022 Pinckneyville Community High School graduate attending Bradley University
- **Josie Wettig**, 2024 Trico High School graduate attending McKendree University
- **Kylie Martin**, 2024 Murphysboro High School graduate attending SIU Carbondale



From L to R, front row: Sarah Hartke, Reagan Fager, Jala Bradley, Taylor Kurtz, Josie Wettig. From L to R, back row: Josie Kattenbraker, Ryan Finke, Caden Robinson, Kylie Martin, Ellie Searby.

MEMBER PRIZES

Every month we will have three member names hidden throughout our Egyptian Electric News section. If you find your name, call our office and identify yourself and the page that it is on and you will win a \$10 credit on your next electric bill.



Winners of \$50:

-  Robert Sumner
-  Brad Doerr
-  Rhonda Bodkin
-  Terry McKee
-  Bryan Cheatham
-  Matthews Baptist Church

Winners of \$100:

-  Dennis Ebersohl
-  Chuck Rickelman
-  Marsha Murphy
-  Anthony Fleege
-  Teresa Thompson
-  John Dollus
-  Jason Cotton

Additional Prize Winners:

-  Pat Phoenix
-  Rick Schroeder
-  Aaron Hargan
-  Doug McCalla
-  David Gregory
-  Michele Eisenhauer
-  Keith Hindman
-  Edwin Stearns
-  Susan Irwin
-  Norman Smith
-  Angie Voss
-  Robert Pyatt
-  Carolyn Powers

\$1.5M in capital credits to be returned to members in 2024

This month, EECA will retire (or pay) \$1,583,320 in capital credits to consumer-members who were served by our cooperative in 1993 and 1994. When you sign up to receive electric service from EECA, you become a member, as well as a consumer. When you pay your monthly EECA bill, you accumulate equity in EECA through capital credit allocations.

When EECA has a positive margin, the margin is allocated through a capital credits system according to each member's usage. An allocation represents the member's share of ownership in our cooperative.

This year, due to increased check fraud and a change in Board Policy to protect our members' returns, active members with total capital credits under \$500 will receive a bill credit. If the amount exceeds \$500, we will send you a check. Members who had service with us in 1993 and 1994 and still have service today will receive a bill credit proportional to their contribution to the year's revenue 30 years prior.

Over our 86-year history, excess margins have helped keep rates affordable, reduced the amount of

money needed to borrow to build, maintain and expand a reliable electric distribution system, and covered emergency expenses.

To learn more about our capital credit allocations and retirements, visit eeca.coop. If you have any questions regarding capital credits, please contact us at 800-606-1505 or capcredit@eeca.coop.

To ensure our records are current for future capital credit returns, please inform us of any changes to your contact information or address. We also suggest that all consumer-members fill out our beneficiary form for capital credits. This form can be accessed online or by calling our office.

Jerry R. Davitz

Additionally, we have recently published a list of unclaimed capital credits. We encourage you to review this list, as you, someone you know, or a family member may have undistributed capital credits. Please check the list of Unclaimed Capital Credits here and help us spread the word!

scan me!



5 Tips for a Safe Harvest

Electrical safety during harvest season requires vigilance and proactive measures. Follow these tips to reduce the risk of electrical accidents.

1. Maintain at least a 10-foot distance from power lines when operating equipment like grain augers, elevators and other tall machinery.
2. Use a spotter to navigate safely around power lines and other electrical equipment.
3. Ensure all farm workers are trained on electrical safety procedures.
4. Regularly inspect all electrical equipment and machinery for signs of wear and damage.
5. Keep first aid kits and emergency contact numbers in an easily accessible location.




HAPPY LABOR DAY

Our office will be closed Monday, September 2 for the Labor Day holiday.

SAVE THE DATE Member Appreciation & Recycle Day!

8 A.M. TO NOON • SATURDAY, OCT. 19
EECA HEADQUARTERS, 1732 FINNEY RD, MURPHYSBORO

We will offer electronic recycling, battery recycling, document shredding, and disposal of unwanted prescriptions in partnership with the Jackson County Health Department.

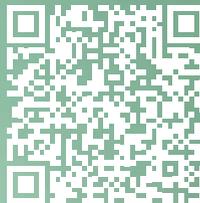
- **Electronics**
- **Batteries**
- **Document Shredding**
- **Prescription Disposal**

This event is open to the public, but to show our appreciation for EECA members, they will be provided coffee and donuts.



APPLY NOW Classroom Empowerment Grants

School teachers & administrators can apply for one of the ten \$500 Classroom Grants that will be offered again this year. On Sept. 2, grant applications will become available and will be due on Nov. 8. Selections will be made and awarded in early December. To learn more, visit eeca.coop or scan the QR code.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Now is the time to schedule annual maintenance for your home's heating system. During fall months, HVAC technicians are typically less busy, making this an excellent time for maintenance and any necessary repairs before the winter months.

A qualified technician can clean filters, check for leaks and ensure all system components are working efficiently to keep your home cozy and warm when the temperatures begin to drop.

