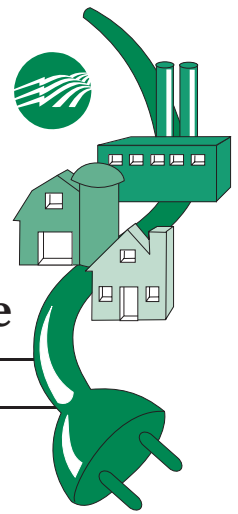


Clinton County Connection

Published by Clinton County Electric Cooperative

Volume 14 Number 5 • email - cceci@cceci.com • Web page - www.cceci.com • October 2006



Across the manager's desk



This year, once again, CCEC is hosting three Area Meetings. If you've never attended one of our Area Meetings, you are missing a great experience. These meetings are a very informal means of communicating our message to you, the member.

We welcome questions from our members, and we'll listen to all suggestions, comments and ideas that you may have. In fact, we want members to ask questions so with your invitation to attend the Area Meetings that you will be receiving this month, there is room at the bottom for you to write out your question and/or comment. You can cut this out and bring it with you to the Area Meeting. We will have a box at the registration table for you to drop in your questions. We are doing this because we understand that some of you may be reluctant, for whatever reason, to stand up and talk before

a crowd. You need not sign your name to your questions.

Refreshments will be served and attendance prizes awarded. We look forward to meeting with you and talking with you at the Area Meetings.

As a consumer-owner of Clinton County Electric, you have a lot of power. You can vote for your board of trustees. You can make your opinions heard at area and annual meetings because you are the owner. And that's a huge advantage over the big companies whose customers have no say in the management of the company. We take the time to listen to our members, to find out what you need and want. Co-ops like Clinton County Electric are unique in the business world.

Take advantage of these Area Meetings. Don't miss this opportunity to meet and talk with your co-op's manager, trustees and employees and find out what's happening at your cooperative. Mark your calendar and make plans today to attend one of the Area Meetings in November.

Mark your calendars now for the November Area Meetings

Monday, Nov. 6

7:30 p.m.

Albers American Legion

Tuesday, Nov. 7

1:30 p.m.

Breese Knights of Columbus (basement)

Tuesday, Nov. 7

7:30 p.m.

Carlyle VFW (south of Carlyle Super Valu)

Topics to be Discussed: SIPC, Rates, New Substation and Transmission Line, Outage Restoration Procedure, Construction Activity and New Bill Format

You will have a chance to win cash prizes - \$250 in cash prizes will be awarded at every meeting. Each member will receive an attendance prize upon registering. A light lunch will follow each meeting.

ATTENDANCE PRIZES given to all members attending!



2007 IEC Memorial Scholarships

Students Encouraged To Apply for 2007 IEC Memorial Scholarships

Clinton County Electric Cooperative, Inc. manager Jim Riddle has announced that for the eleventh consecutive year the Illinois electric cooperatives will award academic scholarships to high school seniors. Five scholarships in 2007 will be awarded through the Illinois Electric Cooperative (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program. Each of the scholarships will be worth \$1250.

High school seniors pursuing a college education anywhere in the United States are eligible to participate in the program. Three scholarships will be awarded to the son or daughter of an electric cooperative member. A fourth award will go to the son or daughter of an electric cooperative director or employee. A fifth scholarship will be reserved for use at a two-year Illinois community college, and sons and daughters of electric cooperative members, employees and directors are all eligible. Deadline for applications to be returned to the cooperative is January 1, 2007.

"The purpose of the scholarship program is to assist electric cooperative youth while honoring past rural electric leaders through memorial gifts," said Riddle. "Clinton County Electric Coop. and the other Illinois electric cooperatives want to make a difference in their communities. One of the best ways we can do that is by lending a hand to our youth."

Candidates are judged on the basis of grade point average, college entrance exam scores, work and volunteer experience, school and civic activities, and a short essay, which demonstrates their knowledge of electric cooperatives.

The IEC Memorial Scholarship Program was established in 1994 by the board of directors of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives. For further information on the IEC Memorial Scholarship Program, contact Ahren Langhauser of Clinton County Electric Cooperative, Inc. at (618) 526-7282, or ask your high school guidance counselor.



LEAVES, LADDERS and Lines



The leaves are starting to fall, and chances are you're getting out the ladder to clean the gutters, using an electric blower to gather the leaves off your lawn, and taking on other jobs around the home that could put you at risk for electric shock.

Be careful how you carry that ladder! If you lift it up in the wrong place, you could brush overhead power lines and give yourself a serious shock. Once the ladder is up and in place, take care as you clean the gutters, and give overhead lines a wide berth. Always be aware of where the lines are, and avoid them.

Clinton County Electric Cooperative

618.526.7282 • Breese, Illinois

www.cceci.com

Youth To Washington Tour and Youth Day in Springfield

Clinton County Electric will again sponsor up to 12 area sophomores or juniors on a day in Springfield to be held on March 28, 2007, sponsored by the co-op and the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives. Of these 12, two will be selected to go to Washington DC in June 2007 for an all-expense paid tour.

WHO MAY ENTER? All applicants must be sons or daughters of Clinton County Electric Cooperative members. If you meet that criterion, then you must be a high school sophomore or junior and attending one of the many high schools in the cooperative

service area. Immediate members of the families of Clinton County Electric board of directors or employees are not eligible.

YOUTH TO SPRINGFIELD. A panel of judges will choose up to 12 students who will participate with more than 125 other youths from other Illinois electric cooperatives in

Illinois Rural Electric Youth Day in Springfield set for Wednesday, March 28, 2007.

The day's activities in Springfield will include touring the state Capitol complex, visiting with legislators and a luncheon. The two Washington tour winners will be selected from these 12 students.

WASHINGTON TOUR. The two local winners will join some 50 other Illinois students, winners of similar contests sponsored by other Illinois electric cooperatives, at Springfield on June 15. They will travel on air-conditioned buses, returning June 22nd. While in Washington, they will visit such attractions as the White House, U.S. Capitol, Smithsonian Institution, Arlington National Cemetery, Lincoln Monument and many other national monuments and places of interest.

For more information, call Clinton County Electric's Ahren Langhauser, Sue Laux or Jim Riddle at 526-7282. To apply, all you need do is come in and pick up an application or call the co-op and we will mail you one or complete the coupon below and mail it to us or bring it in to the office. Applications must be returned to the co-op no later than January 31, 2007.



PLEASE SEND ME AN APPLICATION AND MORE INFORMATION ON "YOUTH DAY IN SPRINGFIELD" AND

Name: _____

Age: _____ Phone: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Address: _____

I attend (name of high school) _____

Class year: (check one) Sophomore _____ Junior _____

**Mail or bring to: Clinton County Electric Cooperative, Inc. P.O. Box 40, Breese, IL 62230
Applications must be returned to the co-op no later than January 31, 2007**



Clinton County Electric Cooperative will be closed on Friday, November 10, as we pay tribute to all the men and women who have served our country in the past and we also honor the men and women who are currently serving our country.



Clinton County Electric will also be closed on Thursday, November 23rd and Friday, November 24th for the Thanksgiving holiday. As we take time to reflect on the many things we have for which to give thanks, please be careful on our highways and be safe.



Start preparing now for Old Man Winter

It may still be warm out, but winter's icy winds and driving snow will soon be at your door. The price of natural gas and propane is expected to soar this winter, and you need to be prepared. Plan ahead and keep Old Man Winter outside where he belongs.

Lineman Brian Taylor stepped away from the controls of the truck to assist Doug VonderHaar with assembling the hardware on the pole. Brian had started on the overhead crew when he first started here at CCEC, but has transitioned onto the underground crew over time.



Lineman Doug Vonder Haar is negotiating a pole-top transformer to connect service for a new account near Beckemeyer. Our linemen have normal jobs and responsibilities on the crews that they work with, but as Doug shows, our linemen are capable of doing any job, even if it is not their normal job. You normally see Doug operating the trencher for the underground crew.

Overhead Foreman Myron Johnson operates the controls for the boom on the truck. The boom has three extendable sections and is used for digging poles, setting poles, and handling equipment (transformers, cross-arms, etc.).



Linemen Ryan Beckmann (left) and Scott Toennies (right) don their rubber gloves to remove an energized line from the top of a power pole. The elbow length rubber gloves are accompanied by rubber sleeves that go all of the way over the shoulder. These items protect the linemen from being electrocuted by the 7,200 volt line that will be in their hands.



Lineman Allan Deiters tightens a piece of hardware called a "dead-end shoe." The dead-end shoe is used to hold overhead wire at the beginning or end of a line. The only thing that holds the wire up after the shoe is hung from the pole, is the clamp that Al is tightening, so he bears down on it to ensure the wire won't slip out.

Lineman, Gary Albers, guides a new power pole into its hole. Gary is the Foreman for the underground crew, but also lends a helping hand to erect new overhead lines as well.



RECIPES



OCTOBER IS CO-OP MONTH

In honor of "October is Cooperative Month", we have asked some employees to give us their favorite recipe. So here goes...

Baked Potato Soup

Harry Buller, Manager of Operations

- 4 large potatoes, baked
- 2/3 C margarine
- 2/3 C flour
- 6 C milk
- Salt and pepper
- 2 green onions, chopped
- 12 slices bacon, cooked, crumbled
- 1 1/4 C shredded cheddar cheese
- 8 oz sour cream

Bake, peel, and cube potatoes. Melt butter in large pan, add flour, stirring slowly until smooth. Cook for 1 minute, stirring constantly. Gradually add milk, cook over medium heat until thick and bubbly. Add potatoes, salt, pepper, green onions, half of the bacon and half the cheddar cheese. Heat thoroughly and then add sour cream. Sprinkle remaining bacon and cheddar cheese on top and serve.

Turkey Wraps

Jim Riddle, President and COO

- Super Size Flour Tortillas
- Ranch Dressing
- Shredded Cheese
- Sliced or Shaved Turkey

Lightly grease bottom of skillet. Turn burner to medium heat. Put tortilla in pan, spread on the ranch dressing, add turkey and shredded cheese. Lightly brown bottom of tortilla and fold it over in skillet. Turn the folded tortilla over a couple of times in the warm skillet until cheese is melted. Garnish with sour cream and salsa.

Baked Apples

Sue Laux, Administrative Assistant

- Core as many or as few apples as you desire
- Halve, quarter or slice
- To the apples, add...
 - Sugar, to your taste
 - Bit of Lemon Juice and
 - 3 T. Tapioca (this is for a little thickening)

Mix apples and tapioca mixture together and top with cinnamon

Bake until apples are tender

Basic Beer Can Chicken Recipe

Ahren Langhauser, Operations Assistant

- 1 can of beer (preferably Stag)
- 1 beer can chicken stand (Wal-Mart sells these)
- 1 chicken (3 1/2 to 4 lbs)
- 2 T. All Purpose Barbecue Rub
- 2 tsp. vegetable oil
- 1-2 C Hickory Wood Chips
- 1 med potato

Pour half of the beer over soaking wood chips. If cooking the chicken on the can, make 2 additional holes in its top. Set the can of beer aside. Remove everything from inside the chicken and rinse, inside and out, drain and blot dry. Sprinkle 1 tsp. of the rub inside body cavity and 1/2 tsp. inside neck cavity. Drizzle oil over outside of bird and rub it all over the skin. Sprinkle outside of bird with 1 tblsp of rub and rub all over skin. Spoon remaining 1 1/2 tsp. of rub into beer through a hole in top of can. Beer will foam. Place beer can into holder and slide chicken onto can. Cut potato in 1/2 and plug neck cavity with one half. Tuck tips of wings behind chicken's back. Stand chicken up in the center of the hot grate, over the drip pan and away from heat. Cover grill and cook chicken until skin is a dark golden brown and very crisp and meat is cooked through (about 180 deg. F. on instant read meat thermometer inserted in thickest part of thigh, but not touching bone), 1 1/4 to 1 1/2 hrs. Using tongs (and possibly oven mitts), remove stand from grill. Careful not to spill hot beer. The chicken can then be removed from stand or carved where it is. (2-4 servings)

Beefy Turnovers

Cathy Markus, Bookkeeper & EDP Operator

- 1/2 lb ground beef
- 1/4 C finely chopped onion
- 1/4 C finely chopped green pepper
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 8 oz can tomato sauce
- 1/3 C A1 Steak Sauce
- 2 C shredded mozzarella cheese (about 8 oz)
- 2-11 oz pkg all ready pizza crust dough

In skillet over med high heat, cook ground beef, onion, pepper and garlic until meat is no longer pink, stirring to break up meat; pour off fat. Add tomato sauce and steak sauce. Heat to a boil; reduce heat to low. Cook for 5 min or until slightly thickened. Remove from heat; stir in cheese. Cool for at least 15 min. Unroll pizza dough from one pkg; divide into 4 equal pcs. Roll each piece into a 6 inch square; spoon a scan 1/2 C beef mixture onto center of each square. Fold dough over to form triangle. Press edges together, sealing well with tines of fork. Place on lightly greased baking sheets. Repeat with remaining dough and filling to make a total of 8 turnovers. Bake at 400 deg F for 20 min or until browned. Serve hot or at room temperature. Refrigerate leftovers.

Simple Chicken Stir-Fry

Bob Kroeger, Engineer

Bob states "for a quick and easy dinner, this can't be beat - I just love Chinese food!"

- 2 C MINUTE white rice, uncooked
- 1 T. oil
- 1 lb boneless skinless chicken breast halves, cut into strips
- 3 C frozen stir fry vegetables, thawed
- 3/4 C stir-fry sauce

Cook rice as directed on package. Meanwhile, heat oil in large nonstick skillet on medium-high heat. Add chicken and stir 5 minutes or until chicken is cooked through.

Add vegetables and sauce, cover. Reduce heat to low, cook 4 minutes more or until heated. Serve over the rice. Simply Delicious!!

Crazy Cake

Mary Jane Richter, Secretary

- 3 C flour
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1 tsp. salt
- 3/4 C Mazola oil
- 1/2 C cocoa
- 3 T. vinegar
- 2 C sugar
- 2 C cold water
- 2 tsp. baking soda

Sift together flour, salt and cocoa. Stir in sugar, baking soda, vanilla, Mazola oil and vinegar. Then add cold water and mix well. Pour in 2 - 8 x 8 pans. Bake at 350 deg for 35-40 minutes. (This recipe does not require eggs.)

Cheeseburger Biscuit Pie

Ralph Kuhl, Manager of Administrative Services

- 1 (12 oz) can Pillsbury Big Country Refrigerated Southern Style Fluffy Biscuits
- 1 lb lean ground beef
- 1/4 C chopped onion
- 1/3 C ketchup
- 3 tbsp prepared mustard
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- 7 slices (3/4 oz) American pasteurized process cheese food

Heat oven to 400 deg. F. Grease 9" pie pan. Separate dough into 10 biscuits. Press 6 biscuits in bottom and up sides of pie pan to form crust. Cut remaining 4 biscuits into quarters and set aside. Brown ground beef and onion; drain. Add ketchup, mustard, salt and pepper. Heat until bubbly. Spoon into biscuit lined pan. Arrange cheese slices on top of beef. Place biscuit quarters, point side down, around edge of pie. Bake at 400 deg. F for 15-17 minutes.

Earl Struck Honored With House Resolution



Rep. Kurt Granberg (D-Clinton), (right) congratulates Earl Struck, former President/CEO of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives on his recent retirement. Granberg sponsored House Resolution 811 honoring Struck for his 27 years of service to the members of electric cooperatives. Granberg said, "There has been no better advocate for the citizens of rural Illinois than Earl Struck. Earl was the former Speaker of the Illinois Third House and served on several advisory committees to the Illinois General Assembly. He helped ensure local control for electric co-op members under Illinois' deregulation legislation."

Portable Generators

With this summer's rash of high winds, tornadoes and severe weather conditions, more and more of our members are heading out to purchase a portable generator.

Portable electric generators can provide a good source of power, but if improperly installed or operated, can become deadly.

Do not connect generators directly to household wiring. Power from generators can back feed along power lines and electrocute anyone coming in contact with them, including line workers making repairs. A qualified, licensed electrician should install your generator to ensure that it meets local electrical codes. Other tips include:

- Make sure your generator is properly grounded.
- Keep the generator dry.
- Plug appliances directly into the generator.
- Make sure extension cords used with generators are rated for the load, and are free of cuts, worn insulation and have three-pronged plugs.
- Do not overload the generator.
- Do not operate the generator in enclosed or partially enclosed spaces. Generators can produce high levels of carbon monoxide very quickly, which can be deadly.
- Use a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) to help prevent electrocutions and electrical shock injuries.

Visit our website @ www.cceci.com for an in-depth look at portable generators.

KC Gets Grant For Geothermal System

A \$21,350 grant was recently awarded to Kaskaskia College to help with the installation of a geothermal heating and cooling system for the college. The Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation funded the grant, which was administered by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC). The purpose of the grant program is to encourage the use of clean and efficient geothermal systems to heat and cool public facilities that are served by the Illinois electric cooperatives.

Representative Kurt Granberg, who pushed for the funds, commented, "I'm very happy that Kaskaskia College is one of the grant recipients, not only because it will save the college money on energy costs, but because it's better for the environment."

Served by Clinton County Electric, Kaskaskia College qualifies as an eligible facility. Schools, community centers, libraries and churches may apply for a grant to help offset the high initial cost of geothermal system installations.

The Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation invests in clean energy development and land preservation efforts throughout Illinois.



Kaskaskia Community College was awarded \$21,350 in grant money to help with the installation of a geothermal heating and cooling system. Pictured above is (left to right) John Freitag, Vice-President of Operations, Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives; Cary Dickinson, Trustee Clinton County Electric; Dr. Jim Underwood, Kaskaskia College President; Bill Hawley, Kaskaskia College Trustee and Jim Riddle, President/COO Clinton County Electric.

Copper Wire Theft on the Rise

Across the country, increasing incidences of copper theft are met with rising fatalities and outages to thousands of people.

Clinton County Electric also has had incidences of copper wire theft and just recently two spare transformers were stolen from one of its substations, with the thieves cutting the chain link fence to gain access.

“Stealing material from an electric substation or utility pole can cause not only serious injuries and death, but extensive outages. The minimum damage that can occur is an outage, which can affect hundreds of our members,” stated Harry Buller, Manager of Operations at CCEC. “Copper wire is appealing to thieves who seek to sell the metal for scrap and higher prices for copper are causing thieves to become bolder,” Buller said.

Safe Electricity offers these tips to help safeguard against electrical dangers and prevent copper theft:

- Never enter or touch equipment inside a substation; stay away from power lines and anything touching a power line.
- If you notice that your household transformer has been opened, call your electric utility immediately.
- Take precautions in the form of locks, specially designed bolts, and warning signs to deter thefts and break-ins at transformers.
- If you see anyone around electric substations or transformers other than utility personnel or contractors, call the police.
- Install motion sensor lights on the outside of your house and business to deter possible thieves.
- Store tools and wire cutters in a secure location, and never leave them out while away.

Breaking into substations or stealing copper wire from a residence is not harmless. Dealing with any metal and electricity is a dangerous combination and if you don't have training, it can place you and others in danger.

(For more information, visit www.SafeElectricity.org.)

Financial Information

BALANCE SHEET

As of August 31, 2006

ASSETS (What We Own):

Total Utility Plant	18,903,013
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	7,604,048
Net Utility Plant	11,298,965
Cash & Temporary Investments.....	0
Investments in Associated Organizations	666,286
Accounts Receivable	206,018
Materials & Supplies	404,157
Prepayments & Other Deferred Expenses.....	1,643,556
Total Assets	14,218,982

MEMBERS' EQUITY & LIABILITIES (What We Owe):

Members' Capital Credits.....	6,475,503
Other Equities.....	220,407
Long-Term Debt	6,659,986
Consumer Deposits	107,704
Other Liabilities & Deferred Income.....	755,382
Total Members' Equity & Liabilities	14,218,982

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

For the Eight Months Ended August 31, 2006

INCOME:

Sale of Electricity & Other Services.....	7,528,742
Other Income	70,028
Total Income	7,598,770

EXPENSES:

Cost of Electric Power	5,231,582
Operations & Maintenance Expenses	622,230
General & Administrative Expenses.....	669,348
System Depreciation.....	369,506
Interest Expense	287,142
Total Expenses.....	7,179,808

NET MARGINS **418,962**

**U.S. POSTAL SERVICE STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP,
MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION
(Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685)**

Publication Title - Clinton County Connection.
 Publication No. - 008212.
 Filing Date - September 28, 2006
 Issue Frequency - Bi-Monthly.
 No. of Issues Published Annually - 6.
 Annual Subscription Price - \$2.00.
 Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication - 475 North Main Street, Breese, Clinton, IL 62230.
 Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher - 475 North Main Street, Breese, IL 62230.
 Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor - Publisher, Clinton County Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 40, Breese, IL 62230. Editor - Susan M. Laux, P.O. Box 40, Breese, IL 62230, Managing Editor - James B. Riddle, P.O. Box 40, Breese, IL 62230.
 Owner - Clinton County Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 40, Breese, IL 62230.
 Known Bondholders, Mortgages, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 percent of More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities - National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation, 2201 Cooperative Way, Herndon, VA 20171.
 Publication Name - Clinton County Connection
 Issue Date for Circulation Data Below - August 2006
 Extent and Nature of Circulation - Average No. of Copies Each Issue during Preceding 12 Months - Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date:
 Total No. Copies - 4,792; 4,800.
 Paid and/or Requested Circulation - Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, and Counter Sales 0; 0. Paid or Requested Mail Subscriptions - 4,721, 4,737.
 Total Paid and/or Requested circulation - 4,721; 4,737.
 Free Distribution by Mail - 0; 0.
 Free Distribution Outside the Mail - 0; 0.
 Total Free Distribution - 0; 0.
 Total Distribution - 4,721; 4,737.
 Copies Not Distributed - Office Use, Leftovers, Spoiled - 71; 63. Returned from News Agents - 0; 0.
 Total - 4,792; 4,800.
 Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation - 100%; 100%.
 This Statement of Ownership will be printed in the October issue of this publication.
 I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions and/or civil sanctions.
 /s/ Susan M. Laux, Editor



**Clinton County
Connection**
 Published by Clinton County Electric Cooperative

Board of Directors

Joseph A. Voss, Chairman Carlyle
 Cary Dickinson, Vice Chairman Hoffman
 Ronald Becker, Secretary-Treasurer Trenton
 John White Carlyle
 Vernon Mohesky Breese
 Kevin Kampwerth Carlyle
 Randy Renth Mascoutah
 Tim Hanke Carlyle
 Richard Timmermann Germantown

Staff

James B. Riddle President
 Ralph Kuhl Manager of Administrative Services
 Bob Kroeger Engineer
 Harry Buller Manager of Operations
 Susan M. Laux Editor

Published by Clinton County Electric Cooperative

The Clinton County Connection
 Clinton County Electric Cooperative, Inc.
 475 North Main Street, P.O. Box 40
 Breese, Illinois 62230 (618)526-7282
 Office open Monday - Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



The CLINTON COUNTY CONNECTION (USPS 008-212) is published bi-monthly for \$2 per year by Clinton County Electric Cooperative, Inc., 475 North Main Street P.O. Box 40, Breese, IL 62230. Periodical rates postage paid at Breese, IL and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to CLINTON COUNTY CONNECTION, 475 North Main Street P.O. Box 40, Breese, IL 62230.