

## Season's Greetings

From the Directors and Employees of  
Shelby Electric Cooperative, Shelby  
DirecTV and Shelby Energy



## A Year Later

As we near the end of the year, we thought we would share this poem that appeared in the Nokomis Free Press-Progress following the ice storm of 2006.

*Twas the month before Christmas and all through the country,  
Not a meter was spinning, not even a watt.  
The candles were placed on the chimney with care,  
In hopes that a lineman soon would be there.*

*The children were nestled all snug in their beds,  
While visions of Playstations danced in their heads.  
The icicles hung from the trees without care,  
In hopes that their branches would fall from the air.*

*With Ma in her snowsuit and me in my Carharts,  
We had just snuggled up, to warm all our parts.  
When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,  
I sprung from the bed to see what was the matter.*

*Away to the window I flew like a flash,  
Tore open the shutters and found a frozen sash.  
The moon gave a twinkle to the slick frozen ice,  
And if the pipes hadn't frozen, the view might be nice.*

*But what to my wondrous eyes would appear,  
But two cords of wood, lying over my hood.  
No TV, no lights, no water, no heat,  
No laundry, no e-mail and no frozen meat.*

*Three days have gone by with no sign of light,  
The children are restless and wanting to fight.  
When down from the road there came a loud truck,  
Could this be a line crew? Could we be in luck?*

*A young man stepped out of his rig in a hurry,  
To look at the damage of winter storm fury.  
His cheeks they were rosy, his eyes they were tired,  
From no sleep at night trying to get things rewired.*

*We watched from the window and deep breaths we took,  
As he rose in the air to get a good look.  
He went right to work to restore our power,  
This man is a blessing for he is no coward.*

*He's battled the ice and braved the cold wind,  
This man is our hero. He's our new best friend.  
With a blink of his eye and the pull of a lever,  
The lights were back on, hopefully forever.*

*We waved and blew kisses as he drove out of sight  
Merry Christmas Mr. Lineman! You just made our night!*

By Sherry Schaefer 12/15/06  
Nokomis, Illinois

Photo by Cary Bryson, Shelby Electric Cooperative Lineman

# Spooktacular Event Held at Shelby Electric Cooperative

Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives operate on four core principles: integrity, accountability, innovation and commitment to community. Halloween night Shelby Electric Cooperative office employees put one of those principles to work, commitment to com-

munity. They did this by providing a safe place for trick-or-treaters, young and old, to come, have fun and enjoy their Halloween night.

“We exceeded our expectations and the night was a huge success,” said Vicki Blackwell, organizer for the Halloween spectacle. “We pre-

pared 250 treat bags to hand out and we had more than 450 people, young and old, come through our lobby area. At one point we had to make another candy run.”

Several office employees turned the cooperative lobby into a fun Halloween experience by creating a haunted maze that included the usual monsters and graveyards, but in a safe environment.

“We wanted it to be scary, but not too scary,” Blackwell said.

“Most people think of an electric utility as just poles and wires and the outside employees who keep the power on. Shelby Electric is more than that. We are about people and supporting the communities we live in,” said Kevin Bernson, cooperative spokesperson. “This trick or treat project gave the inside and outside employees an opportunity to support the community by providing a safe trick or treat environment.”

Due to the success of this year’s event there are already plans for Spooktacular II in 2008.



Trick-or-Treaters make their way through Shelby Electric Cooperative’s lobby, which was turned into a Halloween spectacle.

## SHELBY News

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

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www.shelbyelectric.coop**

**Office Hours:  
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**



Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 



Keepers of the cooperative crypt pose before trick-or-treaters show up to the cooperative office Halloween night. Pictured from left to right are: Becky Sloan, Laura Cutler, Vicki Blackwell (event organizer), Debbie Carlen, Donna Stretch, Dannette Logue and Phoebe Kates (wearing mask).

## Shelby Energy Holds Customer Appreciation Day

Approximately 400 customers attended Shelby Energy Company's customer appreciation day held on Saturday, October 27, and enjoyed a complimentary barbecue lunch.

Those who attended learned more about the generator program and the bulk oil products that Shelby Energy is now selling to commercial, industrial, farm and home customers.

Drawings were held and the following customers were chosen from all entrants:

Rose Walker, Karen Rigan, Ray Buhrmester, Charles Gritzmacher, Mrs. Leland Rincker and Dennis Kneller, all from Shelbyville, Ben Boyer and Bob Boyer both from Bethany, Raymond Bond of Pana,



Janet Orr, Customer Service Representative for Shelby Energy, shows off some of the nice prizes that were given away during their customer appreciation day held on October 27.

Greg Bennett of Windsor, Dan Sheehan of Neoga, Juanita Comp-

ton of Lakewood and Dan Christman of Tower Hill.

## New Substation Energized Shoaff Recognized for 40 Years of Service

In 1947 the Pana substation (sub) was being built. In September 2007 the newest cooperative substation, the Airport sub, was energized. What is the significance between these two substations? Well, to you and me, probably nothing; but to Bill Shoaff it is 40 years of employment with Shelby Electric Cooperative.

"When we energized the Airport sub it meant a lot to me since I started my career with the co-op during the construction of the Pana sub back in 1947," said Bill Shoaff,



Bill Shoaff, Operations Superintendent, stands in front of the cooperative's newest substation. The Airport substation was energized in September. Shoaff was recently recognized for 40 years of service at the cooperative.

Operations Superintendent at Shelby Electric. "There have been other substations built since 1947, but this one came during my 40th year of service and gave me time to reflect on the changes that have occurred over the past 40 years."

"Hydraulics, bucket trucks, computers and technology advancements in general have really changed the way linemen do their jobs and with improved safety measures, we are better protected as well.

"The cooperative board and management have given us the tools and training to allow us to do our jobs more efficiently and provide our member-owners with the quality of

service they expect and deserve," added Shoaff.

The cooperative now has 20 energized substations. The Airport sub serves the Shelbyville Wal\*Mart and allows for future growth to the area.

When asked if this will be the last substation he is part of constructing before he retires, Shoaff replied with a smile, "probably not."

Bill Shoaff was recognized for 40 years of service to the cooperative and its members during the company's fall barbecue.

### Other employees receiving service awards:

#### One Year

Jake Kull  
Marla Pruemmer

#### Five Years

Jim Miller, Shelby Energy  
James McCoy, Director

#### 10 Years

Craig Atteberry  
Brian Bunton  
Chrissy Grant  
Blake Summers

#### 35 Years

Jeff Price

# Linemen Participate in Safety Schools

Shelby Electric Cooperative Apprentice Linemen Jamie Sharp and Blake Knearem, both of Shelbyville, attended linemen safety schools at Lincoln Land Community College in Springfield.

Foreman Kris Koehler of Shelbyville was an instructor at an advanced distribution line school.

Sharp attended a first-year distribution skill lineman school.

Knearem attended the second-year distribution school. All schools taught advanced line work procedures, techniques and lineman safety issues.

The schools were hosted by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives as part of an overall linemen-training program.

Shelby Electric Cooperative is a member of Touchstone Energy®, an alliance of more than 645 local, consumer-owned electric utilities around the country. Shelby Electric is committed to providing superior



Pictured left to right are Apprentice Linemen Blake Knearem and Jamie Sharp, and Foreman Kris Koehler, who recently participated in linemen safety schools in Springfield.

service based on four core principles: integrity, accountability, innovation and commitment to community.

The cooperative serves more than 9,660 members over 2,219

miles of line in parts of Christian, Cumberland, Effingham, Fayette, Macon, Montgomery, Moultrie, Sangamon and Shelby counties.

For more information visit [www.shelbyelectric.coop](http://www.shelbyelectric.coop).

## OUTAGE REPORT

Line Outages				
Date	Hours	Substation	Cause	Affected
10/4/07	2.27	Yantisville	Miscellaneous	57
10/8/07	2.30	Taylorville	Broken insulator	110
10/9/07	0.55	Richland	Unknown	202
10/15/07	2.15	Lakewood	Trees/storm	116
10/21/07	0.30	Shelbyville	Trees/storm	70
10/21/07	2.00	Velma	Broken conductor	73
10/22/07	2.30	Dunkel	Unknown	102
Sub Outages				
Date	Hours	Substation	Cause	Affected
10/18/07	1.40	Elwin	Power supplier	516
10/18/07	2.40	Blue Mound	Power supplier	568
10/18/07	2.30	Yantisville	Planned work	758
10/18/07	0.30	Yantisville	Equipment failure	758

Stay Safe this Holiday Season by Visiting [www.shelbyelectric.coop](http://www.shelbyelectric.coop) for Holiday Safety Tips.



### Offices Closed

Your cooperative offices will be closed on Dec. 24 and 25 to celebrate Christmas and on Jan. 1, 2008, to celebrate New Year's Day.

