

SHELBY News

January 2007

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

A publication of Shelby Electric Cooperative



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Cooperative And Members Say Thank You see back page

Mother Nature Coats Shelby Electric With Ice And Snow

On Thursday, Nov. 30, 2006, around 3:30 p.m., outage calls began to trickle into the cooperative offices. When it was all said and done, the cooperative had 5,000 members without power and 500 poles either down or broken. It was apparent that Mother Nature wanted to welcome December with one of the worst ice storms this area has had since 1978. The cooperative moved quickly to restore power and requested additional crews by enacting the statewide emergency work plan. Twenty-six additional linemen with trucks and equipment came to our aid.

Within 36 hours, power had been restored to one half or 2,500 of the members who had been affected by the ice storm. By Saturday night, power had been restored to 3,500 of the 5,000 members

who had lost power, leaving 1,500 members without electric service. By Tuesday evening, power had been restored to 4,400 of the original 5,000, leaving 600 still without electricity. By Wednesday evening, less than 75 members were still without power and by Thursday evening, power had been restored to everyone who could receive electric service. Some members needed additional repairs to their own meter base, etc.

“The cooperative appreciates the member’s patience as we restored their power.”

“Considering the nature of the storm, how spread out the damage was and the weather conditions the guys had to work in, I feel the guys did an outstanding job in the restoration process,” says Bill Shoaff, Operations Superintendent at the cooperative.

“I can’t say enough about the way our cooperative handled this situation,

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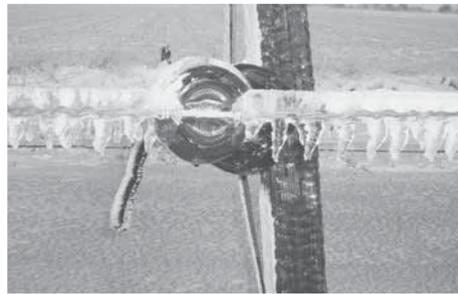
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from the people who took care of the details back at the office, to the employees manning the phones and especially to the guys working out in the elements to restore everyone's power," noted cooperative board Chairman Darrell Shumard. "The cooperative appreciates the patience the members had with us as we restored their power." The additional crews came from the following Indiana Electric Cooperatives: Fulton County REMC, Kankakee Valley REMC, Jasper REMC and Southern REC. Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative and EnerStar Power from Illinois sent crews as well. Also helping out in the last couple of days were crews from SouthEastern Illinois and Southern Illinois Electric Cooperatives.

While power has been restored to all members, it should be noted that it will take months to permanently repair all of the damage caused to the distribution system. Consequently, there will be a number of interruptions in service as repairs are made.



James Coleman, President/CEO confers with **Terry Oldham, Construction Superintendent.**



Bill Shoaff, Operations Superintendent, looks over the service map.

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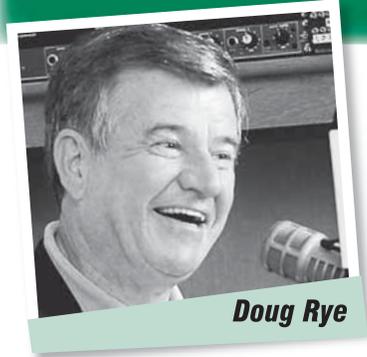
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...Life can go on.

Doug Rye Says:

Sealing The Crawl Space, Part II



Doug Rye

Wow! Did last month's column ever generate a lot of interest. I have had a steady stream of calls since it was published. As promised, I will devote this column to describing how to properly seal the crawl space. It does work.

First of all, let me review with you the reasons why, in most cases, it is good to seal your crawl space. Moisture in the air always goes from warm to cool (like a glass of iced tea). Well, in the warmer months, the crawl space is cooler than the hot humid air, which means that the warm moist air is trying to find a cold surface, like ductwork, floor joists or ground for condensation to occur. So, if the warm, moist air can get in through open vents, it will find a place to condensate and BINGO, there's your moisture problem. If you seal or close those vents, the warm, moist air can't get in your crawl space in the first place. And if you place heavy plastic on the ground, it will stop ground moisture (not standing water) from migrating into your crawl space.

However, let me stress that there are times when it isn't appropriate to seal a crawl space. In most cases it is the best option, but here are some situations when you should NOT seal a crawl space.

1. Do NOT seal your crawl space if your state or local codes do not approve of this type of construction.
2. In some cases, your pest exterminator might not approve and, if this is the case, do NOT seal the crawl space until you find another exterminator who will approve.
3. Do NOT seal the crawl space if you are in a flood plain or if you ever have

standing water under your house. You must solve the water problem first.

4. Do NOT seal the crawl space if your dryer vent discharges into the crawl space. Change that and place the vent on an outside wall before you seal the crawl space.
5. Do NOT seal the crawl space if you have combustible appliances such as a gas furnace or a gas water heater located in your crawl space. Such appliances require considerable amounts of air for combustion.

Now, if none of the above conditions exist, and you have decided to continue, here's the step-by-step method.

No. 1: From under the house, install two-inch rigid foam cutouts (eight inches by 16 inches) into the foundation vents.

No. 2: Install a minimum of eight-mil plastic across all of the ground of the crawl space and tape and/or overlap the plastic's seams.

Install the plastic about six inches up the foundation wall. This will allow you to spray cellulose or foam insulation on the foundation wall. Once again, make sure you let your exterminator know about your plans before you seal the crawl space.

Folks, that's really about all there is to it. Many will tell you that sealing up a crawl space will cause moisture problems. The fact is when we are called to solve moisture-related problems in a crawl space, we solve these problems as I described here in this column. When the crawl space is sealed, there should be no moisture in space unless you have a plumbing leak. While this rarely happens, you may want to install a small sump pump at the lowest elevation in case a leak develops.

In my honest opinion, this is how you should treat your crawl space. By sealing your crawl space, you will have a drier area with a more constant temperature, which will also help you save on your utility bills. And as always, feel free to call me at the office at 501-653-7931 if you have other questions.



Doug Rye, the "King of Caulk and Talk" can be heard on radio stations across the country, including Illinois, on his syndicated radio program "Home Remedies". Visit his website www.DougRye.com, email him at info@philliprye.com or call him (888) Doug-Rye if you have questions or want more information.

Reprinted with permission from Doug Rye



January Recipes

Sausage Broccoli Chowder



Ingredients

1 pound bulk Italian sausage	cream of mushroom soup, undiluted
1 medium onion, chopped	9 ounces cheese tortellini, cooked and drained
3 garlic cloves, minced	1/2 teaspoon black pepper
8 ounces fresh mushrooms, sliced	1/2 teaspoon dried basil
2 tablespoons butter	1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
2 cups broccoli florets	8 cups light cream
2 carrots, diced	1/2 cup grated Romano cheese
2 (14.5 ounce) cans chicken broth	
1 (10.75 ounce) can condensed	

Directions:

In a skillet, crumble and cook sausage until no longer pink. Remove to paper towels to drain; set aside. In the same skillet, sauté onion, garlic and mushrooms in butter until tender; set aside.

In a Dutch oven, cook the broccoli florets and carrots in chicken broth until tender. Stir in sausage and the mushroom mixture from skillet. Add mushroom soup, tortellini, black pepper, basil and thyme; heat through. Stir in cream and Romano cheese; heat through again. Makes 12 servings.

Chocolate Soup

Ingredients

1 cup milk and 1/2 cup heavy whipping cream, mixed together
2 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder
2 tablespoons white sugar
1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon

Directions:

Heat all but 2 tablespoons of the milk and cream mixture in a saucepan. Do not allow it to boil. In a soup bowl mix the cocoa, sugar, vanilla, cinnamon and the reserved milk and cream. Pour the cocoa mixture into the hot milk and cream, blending well. Return mixture to bowl and garnish with mini marshmallows or graham cracker bears. Serves one.

Tortilla Soup

Ingredients

4 boneless chicken breast halves, cooked and shredded	2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro
2 (14.5 ounce) cans chicken broth	1/2 teaspoon ground cayenne pepper
1 (4 ounce) can diced green chili peppers	1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
1 (10 ounce) can diced tomatoes with green chili peppers	4 (10 inch) flour tortillas
1 onion, chopped	1 tablespoon olive oil
2 cloves garlic, minced	Enough shredded Monterey Jack cheese to lightly top each serving
1 tablespoon fresh lime juice	

Directions:

Combine the chicken broth, green chili peppers, tomatoes with green chili peppers, onion and garlic in a soup pot. Add the shredded chicken. Bring to a boil, stirring frequently. Reduce heat and simmer for 30-35 minutes. Add the lime juice, cilantro, cayenne and cumin. Simmer for 10-15 minutes longer.

Cut the tortillas into 1/2 x 2-inch strips. Fry in hot olive oil in skillet until golden brown; drain on paper towels. Ladle the soup into bowls. Garnish with shredded Monterey Jack cheese and tortilla strips. Makes 7 servings.

Continued on page 5



If you have recipes to share mail them to: Recipes P.O. Box 560, Shelbyville, Illinois 62565 or P.O. Box 709, Mattoon, Illinois 61938.

Chicken Corn Soup

Ingredients

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1 (4 pound) chicken | Salt and pepper to taste |
| 1 onion, chopped | 1 cup all-purpose flour |
| 4 quarts water | 1 pinch salt |
| 1 (10 ounce) package frozen whole kernel corn | 1 egg |
| 1/2 cup chopped celery | 1/4 cup milk |
| | 2 hardboiled eggs, chopped |

Directions:

In a large stockpot cover chicken and onion with water. Cook slowly until tender, approximately 1 hour. Remove chicken, let cool and remove meat from bones. Cut meat into 1 inch pieces, discard skin and bones. Add corn, cut up chicken and celery to stockpot and season with salt and pepper. Simmer soup for 10 minutes.

In a separate bowl make rivels (crumb sized egg noodles) by mixing together flour, salt, egg, and enough milk to form small crumbs. Drop rivels into soup and add hardboiled eggs. Simmer for 15 minutes and serve hot. Servings per recipe: 12

Cabbage Goulash

Ingredients

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 pound bulk pork sausage | 1 (6 ounce) can tomato paste |
| 1 pound ground beef | 2 tablespoons vinegar |
| 1 large onion, chopped | 1 tablespoon chili powder |
| 1 (28 ounce) can whole peeled tomatoes, chopped, juice reserved | 1 teaspoon garlic powder |
| | 1/4 teaspoon dried crushed red pepper flakes (optional) |
| | 10 cups shredded cabbage |

Directions:

In a large kettle, brown sausage, beef and onion; drain off fat. Add remaining ingredients except cabbage; mix well. Stir in cabbage and simmer 15-20 minutes or until cabbage is tender. Serves 6.



Honoring Our Area Military Personnel



PV**T Andrew P. Sheehan** graduated from Army Basic Combat Training and Advanced Infantry Training at Ft. Benning, GA., on Oct. 13, 2006. He then reported and graduated from Airborne School, also at Ft. Benning. Andrew is currently in Ranger Indoc-trination Program (RIP) hold. He will report for RIP on Jan. 23, 2007.

Andrew is the son of Dan and Joann Sheehan of Neoga and Janice Krietemeyer of Shelbyville. He has two sisters, Ashley Monroe of Sea-side, CA., and Amanda Krietemeyer of Shelbyville. Andrew has two brothers, Tyler and Trentin of Neoga.

Andrew attended Neoga High School and graduated in May 2006.

If you have a family member or friend who is currently serving in the military, please send us their name, rank and where they are stationed and we will try to feature them in an up-coming issue. Pictures can be used but must be of good quality. Send information to Military, P.O. Box 709, Mattoon, Illinois 61938 or P.O. Box 560, Shelbyville, Illinois 62565.



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Member Exchange

For Sale

■ 1982 Chevy 4 x 4 jacked up truck, needs engine work; 1991 Pontiac Grand Prix; 1979 Eagle bus, conversion started; 52" RCA big screen, needs minor repair; entertainment storage unit, 2' x 4' high; Heil AC/heat package, outdoor unit; TMX 10th anniversary Elmo, new in box; Dell Axim 5 pda keyboard attachment. Call 217-348-0224.

■ 25 "Thomas and Friends" train engines and cars, interlocking wooden train track with bridges, tunnels and other extras, 3' x 4' wooden train table, many accessories and landscaping. Call 217-774-2880 leave message if no answer.

■ Snowmobiles, 1991 Artic Cat 440 Pantera w/rev. & 1980 Artic Cat 440 Panther, get ready for the big snow this year; 2001 Suzuki RM 125 Motocross dirt bike, son off to college need to sell. Call 217-895-3846 or 217-202-0951.

■ Coin collection, pennies to silver dollars. Call 217-764-5296.

■ 2001 GMC Sonoma pick-up, ext. cab, a/c, good on gas, nice stereo, bed liner, 3rd door, well maintained. Asking \$6,900 obo. Call 217-728-4291.

■ 1960s Massey Ferguson 35 Deluxe tractor, 4 cylinder gas, 3 forward speeds & reverse (hi/lo range), two stage clutch, 3 point hitch, draw bar and front bumper, in good operating condition, good paint, new seat and tires, operator's manual, stored in garage, lights are not wired, attachments include 6' box blade and 5' brush cutter, \$3,200. Call 217-797-5547.

■ Two paint mares - 15.3 bay with blaze and 3 socks, 4 years-old, has had 120 days riding, quiet, gentle, is gaited and will be great on trails, needs more miles but is willing to learn; 14.3 bay with blaze, sock and minimal white on body, 6 years-old, has had 180 days under saddle, nice jog and lope, athletic, up-to-date on all shots and worming, nice horses. Call 217-797-6917.

■ 2003 Carri-Lite 5th wheel, excellent, like new condition, used 6 times, all standard features + 20 updates & options added, reduced \$37,000; 2003 Silverado LT3500 4WD crew cab, Duramax Diesel 6600 V8 engine, Allison 5 speed automatic transmission, excellent condition, 6,000 miles, truck is used for hauling 5th wheel, reduced to \$33,000. Call 217-774-2971.

■ Metal display shelving out of our retail store, each unit is 4' x 4' x 4', free standing with shelves on both sides, 10 units with lots of extra shelves, \$100; Foredon rotary power tool, de-

signed for power carving, new still in the box, cost \$279, will sell for \$175. Call 217-768-4944.

■ Rhode Island crossbred, straight run chicks, \$1 each, 1 to 50; Ring neck pheasant chicks, straight run, \$2 each; Bob white quail chicks, straight run, \$2 each. Call 217-895-2627.

■ "Grandma's Wisdom," a children's pastel patchwork hardcover book, makes a great gift for birthday or Christmas, tells the history of the Central Illinois Amish plus two adventure stories in the Yoder family, there are character cutouts to color & discussion questions after stories, \$10 each, order at grandmaswisdom@yahoo.com.

■ Nordic Track ski exerciser with electronic monitor, folds for storage, \$100; old Tinker toys, \$15. Call 217-895-2053.

■ Alfalfa hay, square bales, wired tied, 1st, 2nd and 3rd cutting, no rain. Call 217-879-2794.

■ 1984 Honda "Big Red" three wheeler, 200 cc, drive shaft & reverse, tires like new, includes windshield, great condition. Call 217-567-3494.

■ Squirrel corn, nice full ears, 40 lbs for \$60, free delivery available; John Deere snow blower, fits many models, \$500 obo. Call 217-567-3293.

■ Poulan 14" chain saw, \$65; new Dayton electric motors, 110/220, 1 phase, 1/4, 1/3, 1/2, 3/4, 1, 2, and 5 hp, make an offer on one or all of them. Call 217-865-2050.

■ Pure chocolate Lab puppy, approximately 2 - 3 months old, no papers, to good home only, \$25; Chicago Bulls starter jacket, XL, great condition, \$30; large wooden desk with one small drawer on either side, one large drawer on either side, \$25 obo. Call 217-865-2403 leave message if no answer.

■ 2003 8650 J.D. combine with STS rotor, motor hours of 890, separator, 635; 2002 893 8-row corn head hydraulic deck plate, head knives; 2001 920F with 20 ft. platform, full finger auger; 8630 J.D tractor; 6180 16-row no till white corn planter; 2500 D.M.I. 6 shank no till ripper, 3 extra sets of shanks; 1175 Kewanee disc with harrow; Donahue drop down imp. trailer, 35 ft.; J.D. 8-row sickle bar mower; mounted Vicon seeder & fertilizer gravity flow wagon with hydraulic auger & cover; Landall tiller, 25 ft.; Cat track loader; 1998 New Holland Ford Jenison #8970 tractor with front wheel assist. Call 217-567-3335 or 217-783-2294.

■ Rear-tine tiller, 6 hp chain drive, new in 2006, good condition. Call 217-873-8330.

■ Commercial style meat smoker, s/s, 200 lb capacity, \$5,000; commercial style smoker/dehydrator, s/s, 150 lb capacity, jerky making ma-

chine, \$3,500 - will take \$8,000 for pair. Call 217-246-8606.

■ Two treadle Union loom, no. 36, extra shuttles, \$1,000. Call 217-346-2809.

■ Exterior left hand door, includes glass and hardware, 36 x 80, white, matching self-storing storm door, Crossbuck, \$25. Call 217-234-7338.

■ Two-story fixer-upper in Mattoon, almost new roof, insulated, new bathroom, large corner lot, 2,400 sq ft, might contract for deed, \$22,500. Call 217-873-4966.

■ Good, clean, sanitized invalid equipment - wheelchair \$45, commode \$25, shower chair \$15, tub transfer chair \$15, walker \$15, cane \$15; 4-drawer legal size file cabinet, \$15. Call 217-345-1041.

■ Broyhill couch and chair, dark brown, hardly been used; 2000 and 2003 Mercury trailer hitches, attach to frame, \$50 each. Call 217-797-6372.

■ 1987 Volvo, white, 400 Cummins, 9 speed, 373 rear end, \$4,500. Call 217-549-6243.

■ Six week old bunnies, \$5; 2 1/2 year old gas stove, used only 1 year, \$250 obo; Weider weight bench and weights, \$200; go cart, \$500 obo; RCA 61" big screen TV, \$900 obo; 2' x 4' x 33" Foosball table, \$45. Call 217-246-2640.

Wanted

■ Old toy farm tractors & implements, pedal tractors, any brand, any condition, no dealers please. Call 217-824-9460 or e-mail list to Baileyauction@hotmail.com.

■ H Farmall in working condition. Call 217-325-3690.

■ Old cars or parts wanted, '75 or older, any condition. Call 217-856-2233 or 217-254-0856.

■ Reefer container needed for storage, must be at least 7 ft wide by 10 ft long. Call 217-768-3864.

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■ "Quality Care" CNA, 20 years experience, would like to assist you in your home, reasonable rates, excellent references. Call 217-234-8740.

■ Green sawn lumber, farm or ranch, your log or mine. Call 217-768-3864.

If you have items to list, please send them to: Member Exchange P.O. Box 560, Shelbyville, IL 62565 or P.O. Box 709, Mattoon, IL 61938
e-mail- info@cmeccoop.com - or - memberexchange@shelbyelectric.com.

Mother Nature's Wintry Blast



Shelby Electric Cooperative Welcomes A New Employee



Marla Pruemer started working for Shelby Electric Cooperative as a Member Services Representative on Nov. 13, 2006. On Nov. 30, 2006, she was welcomed to the cooperative by Mother Nature as a major ice storm hit. Marla, along with the other employees, worked hard manning the phones and supporting the efforts to get the power back on. Marla is a graduate of Tower Hill High School and received a bachelor's degree in Speech Communications from Eastern Illinois University. Prior to employment with the cooperative, Marla worked for Tiny Tech Preschool in Shelbyville and also at the U of I Extension office in Shelby County. Marla has two sons, Dakota, 11, and Levi, 15.

Marla loves being a parent and going to her children's activities. She also loves the people here and she says that it feels like home when she walks in the door. Lucky for us the extra work involved with the ice storm didn't scare her away ☺. Welcome to the cooperative family Marla.

Outage Report — November 2006

Line Outages:

Date	Hours	Substation	Cause	Members Affected
11/1	0.55	Shelbyville	Planned Work	55
11/2	0.55	Moweaqua	Vehicles	20
11/2	1.30	Dunkel	Broken Conductor	33
11/5	1.06	Yantisville	Broken Conductor	4
11/6	0.45	Neoga	Planned Work	4
11/21	0.55	Elwin	Vehicles	338
11/23	1.45	Velma	Animal/Birds	51
11/26	1.00	Velma	Trees/Storm	14

Individual Outages:

Date	Hours	Substation	Cause	Members Affected
11/2	1.55	Wenonah	Vehicles	1
11/3	1.45	Moweaqua	Animal/Bird	1
11/4	2.25	Moweaqua	Broken Pole	1
11/5	2.00	Neoga	Animal/Bird	1
11/8	1.10	Pana	Planned Work	1
11/10	2.42	Lakewood	Trees/Storm	1
11/11	0.51	Shelbyville	Unknown	1
11/11	1.46	Yantisville	Loose Connection	1
11/12	1.03	Herrick	Animal/Bird	1
11/15	5.00	Dunkel	Bad Underground	1
11/15	1.34	Neoga	Loose Connection	1
11/16	1.45	Moweaqua	Miscellaneous	1
11/22	1.15	Wenonah	Animal/Bird	1
11/23	1.00	Velma	Miscellaneous	1
11/25	1.30	Moweaqua	Vehicles	1
11/28	0.45	Pana	Member's Own Wiring	1

Due to the December Ice Storm, there will not be an outage report in the February **Shelby News**. If anyone is interested in seeing the outage report from Nov. 31, 2006, to Dec. 31, 2006, please contact the cooperative.

Thank You!

Shelby Electric Cooperative would like to personally thank each member that was without power due to the ice storm, including the employees and directors who were also part of that mix, for their patience. Being without power for several days can begin to wear on people so we appreciate your patience with us as we worked long hours to bring the power back on. Many of you took the time to call or send words of encouragement so we thought we'd share a few. They meant a lot to the linemen and all involved at the cooperative.

"Great Job Guys, Thanks ☺"

"Pats on the Back to the Guys out in the Elements"

"Thank You for Putting in the Long Hours to get our Power back on"

"We appreciated getting a co-op employee to talk to when we called several times over the weekend"

"Keep up the Great work everyone"

"Still out of power but appreciate everyone's efforts"

"I have no power, just wanted to call and make sure the guys are safe & understand they are trying & doing their best"



The cooperative would also like to say a **big thank you** to everyone involved with this from the employees, spouses and businesses who helped prepare the breakfast and dinners, to the people getting food and supplies out to the linemen, to the people answering the phones, our linemen and of course our members, this was a great team effort by all involved.

Special Cooperative Thank You to Tina and Ashlee Coleman who volunteered their time to help the cooperative employees with the meal preparations.



A publication of Shelby Electric Cooperative

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