

Cooperative holds 73rd Annual Meeting at new location

The hot sun and noisy cicadas did not keep members of Shelby Electric Cooperative from coming out in force for the cooperative's 73rd Annual Meeting of members. The event was held Friday, June 10 at the Chautauqua building in Forest Park, Shelbyville, where members were served a pork chop lunch, entertained by the Gene Trimble Clown Band and visited a number of vendors. Members also had the opportunity to talk with State Representatives Chapin Rose of Mahomet and Adam Brown of Decatur.

Board Chairman Darrell Shumard took time to discuss the issue of capital credits. "There is always some confusion about what they are and why we pay them," said Shumard. "When your co-op was established in 1938, the bylaws for a cooperative were all the same. You have a board of directors. You have to have an annual meeting; and if you make any money, it is returned to the membership in the form of capital credits, based on your pro-rated share of usage."

The capital credits paid by the cooperative, to date, have totaled \$5,789,460. Patronage is based

on the members' pro-rated share of profits from previous years where the coop showed a net margin.

Treasurer Richard Boggs of Macon reported that revenue for 2010 totaled \$30,477,145, resulting in margins for the year of \$1,393,883.

Shelby Electric Cooperative President/CEO, James Coleman said, "The new Prairie State Energy Campus coal-fired power plant will begin producing power out of Unit One in December of this year and Unit Two should be ready to go on line in early 2012. This power plant should help us to have stable rates well into the future barring any future legislation or any new EPA regulations." This coal-fired plant is a joint venture among eight public utilities and is being built near Lively Grove, Illinois.

Coleman mentioned the coopera-



Darrell Shumard



Jeff Standerfer

Two area men were re-elected to Shelby Electric Cooperative's Board of Directors for three-year terms during the organization's 73rd Annual Meeting of members held Friday, June 10 in the Chautauqua Building at Forest Park. The re-elected Directors are Darrell Shumard of Stewardson and Jeff Standerfer of Shelbyville.

tive is currently doing a rate study and said there will be a modest rate increase in 2012. "As an electric cooperative we are facing the same challenges and economic uncertainties as other utilities. As we learn more from our rate study, we will communicate with our members about this rate increase and how it will affect their bill," said Coleman. "The cooperative will continue to educate our members on how to reduce the energy portion

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▶ *Continued from 16a*

of their bill,” continued Coleman. He suggested people visit www.togetherwesave.com, take the energy savings home tour and learn more about how little things can add up to big savings.

Also during his report, Coleman encouraged members to use the pharmacy discount of their Co-op Connections Card and noted that \$35 million dollars have been saved nationwide since the program's inception in May 2007. Shelby Electric members have saved \$35,000 since the program started. Coleman said, “If you misplaced your Co-op Connections Card or don't remember receiving one, come by the office and pick one up. With over 21,000 discount offers across the country, 110 national deals and over 55 local participating businesses, you are sure to save some money with this card.” Coleman



Chairman of the Board, Darrell Shumard, addresses the members during the meeting.

added, “The pharmacy discount alone is worth having this membership card.” He also explained how the cooperative's Internet subsidiary, PWR-net, now has 35 broadcast points and has seen tremendous growth in the past year. “We've built a redundancy to our wireless broadband product to provide better service and we have covered our service territory to be able to provide better Internet access to our members and communities within our service area,” said Coleman.

He also talked about the LP gas subsidiary, Shelby Energy, and the different programs offered, such as bulk oil supplies and the Generac generator program. He also mentioned the cooperative's recycling program, the Power of Green. “In just under a year's time, the Power of Green has taken in almost 36 tons of recyclables,” said Coleman. Members learned about the cooperative's efforts in helping train electrical workers in Haiti through National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's International Program.

During the meeting Darrell Shumard of Stewardson and Jeff Stand-erfer of Shelbyville were re-elected



Chief Operating Officer Josh Shallenberger presents Michael and Norma Walters with this year's Annual Meeting grand prize, a Generac portable generator from Shelby Energy. Pictured are Shallenberger and Norma Walters.

to the Board of Directors for three-year terms.

Shelby Electric Cooperative is a member of Touchstone Energy — an alliance of more than 735 local, consumer-owned electric utilities around the country. Shelby Electric is committed to providing superior service based on four core principles: integrity, accountability, innovation and commitment to community. The co-op serves more than 9,918 meters over 2,244 miles of line in parts of Christian, Cumberland, Effingham, Fayette, Macon, Montgomery, Moultrie, Sangamon and Shelby counties. For more information visit www.shelbyelectric.coop, like our facebook page by visiting www.facebook.com/YourCoop.

SHELBY News

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P.O. BOX 560
Shelbyville, IL 62565
Phone: 217-774-3986
Fax: 217-774-3330
www.shelbyelectric.coop
twitter.com/YourCoop
facebook.com/YourCoop

Office Hours:
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Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

One of the easiest ways to make your home more energy efficient is to add insulation in the attic. To see if you need insulation, look across an uncovered attic floor. If the insulation is level with or below the floor joists, you probably need to add more.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

Shelby Electric Cooperative announces scholarship winners

Three area youths were recognized and awarded \$1,000 scholarships during Shelby Electric Cooperative's 73rd Annual Meeting of members, Friday, June 10.

This year's winners were David Kirkbride of Pana, Ryan Gant of Moweaqua and Zechariah Schwerman of Shelbyville.

David is a graduate of Pana High School and will be attending Southern Illinois University in Carbondale where he will be studying Chemistry and Pre-Med. He is the son of Tom and Geri Kirkbride.

Ryan is a graduate of Central A & M High School and will be attending the University of Illinois to study Communication with a Pre-Law Track. He is the son of Rodney and Angela Gant.

Zechariah was home schooled and will be attending Lake Land Junior College with plans to con-

tinue on to the University of Illinois where he will be studying Computer Engineering. He is the son of James and Valerie Schwerman.

"We are always pleased to be able to provide our scholarships each year to these outstanding students as a way to give back to the communities we serve," noted Cooperative Board Chairman Darrell Shumard.

Marla Eversole, who coordinates this program for the cooperative, will begin notifying schools within the cooperative's service territory in January about the 2012 scholarships. You can also learn more about the scholarships on the cooperative's website,



From left are David Kirkbride of Pana, Ryan Gant of Moweaqua, Shelby Electric Cooperative Board Chairman Darrell Shumard and Zechariah Schwerman of Shelbyville. Scholarships were handed out before the start of the cooperative's 73rd Annual Meeting.

www.shelbyelectric.coop under the "Our Community" menu tab. Like our Facebook page by going to www.facebook.com/YourCoop and clicking on Like.



See how the cooperative's solar panel project is doing by visiting www.shelbyelectric.coop and click on the story under the Shelby News section on the home page.

OUTAGE REPORT

LINE OUTAGES				
DATE	HOURS	SUBSTATION	CAUSE	MEMBERS AFFECTED
6/2/2011	1.25	Taylorville	Trees	55
6/8/2011	0.55	Grove City	Vehicles	52
6/10/2011	1.30	Pana	Vehicles	78
6/11/2011	1.30	Lakewood	Trees	53
6/11/2011	1.30	Neoga	Trees	92
6/11/2011	1.30	Moweaqua	Lightning	73
6/15/2011	2.00	Wenonah	Lightning	64
6/15/2011	0.35	Pana	Bad underground	50
6/18/2011	2.50	Neoga	Lightning	168
6/18/2011	1.00	Velma	Broken conductor	78
6/18/2011	2.50	Neoga	Lightning	65
6/18/2011	3.45	Airport	Lightning	115

LINE OUTAGES (Cont.)				
DATE	HOURS	SUBSTATION	CAUSE	MEMBERS AFFECTED
6/19/2011	1.10	Neoga	Lightning	168
6/25/2011	2.15	Richland	Lightning	128
6/25/2011	5.00	Richland	Lightning	128
6/27/2011	2.45	Neoga	Lightning	116
6/29/2011	2.00	Richland	Equipment failure	135
6/30/2011	2.00	Shelbyville	Animal/bird	131
SUBSTATION OUTAGES				
DATE	HOURS	SUBSTATION	CAUSE	MEMBERS AFFECTED
6/4/2011	3.40	Pana	Supplier	546
6/22/2011	0.41	Shelbyville	Vehicles	661
6/26/2011	0.45	Richland	Equipment failure	572

Two area youths spend week in Washington, D.C.

Mikayla Mendenhall of Blue Mound and Max Fransen of Decatur represented Shelby Electric Cooperative in Washington, D. C., during the annual “Youth to Washington” tour June 10-17. This event, sponsored by the electric and telephone cooperatives of Illinois began in the late 1950s to introduce rural youths to our democratic form of government and how cooperatives operate.

“The cooperative is pleased to be able to provide our outstanding area youth with these opportunities and both Mikayla and Max represented the cooperative well,” said Member Services Representative Marla Eversole who coordinates this program for the cooperative.

The students met with Congressman Bobby Schilling and were among 76 rural Illinois youth leaders selected for the trip. The Illinois students joined more than



Students representing Shelby Electric Cooperative were Mikayla Mendenhall who is pictured immediately to the left of Congressman Bobby Schilling (standing in the center) and Max Fransen to his right. Also in the photo are Eve Shafer and Ben Neuendorf from Spoon River Electric Cooperative and Jacey Hartweg and Sabina Berry from Western Illinois Electrical Coop.

1,500 young leaders from across the country. In addition to the Capitol, they also visited Arlington National Cemetery, the Washington National Cathedral, several Smithsonian Museums, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum,

the World War II Memorial, memorials to Presidents Lincoln, Jefferson, Washington and Roosevelt, the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, the National Archives, the Newseum and a number of other historical sites.

Visit us at the Farm Progress Show in Decatur

Visit the Touchstone Energy exhibit in the Varied Industries Tent at this year’s Farm Progress Show, August 30, 31 and September 1, in Decatur, Illinois to learn about energy efficiency measures that will save you money each month on your energy bill.

Stop by and check out the “Energy Efficiency Wall” and pick up a free gift. Cooperative members present your Coop-Connections Card and receive a special gift. If



you don’t have a Connections Card or have lost yours, contact your cooperative office for a new one.

Illinois Touchstone Energy Cooperatives will also be sponsoring the Live Line Safety Demo, an electrical safety demonstration featuring 7,200 volts of electricity! Great for kids and adults, it’s an experience your family won’t want to miss. Kyle Finley will have his Live Line Safety Demo outside the Varied Industries Tent on Junior Lot #450. Visit www.livelihooddemo.com.

The Touchstone Energy Hot Air Balloon will also be making an appearance flying the American flag each morning. If weather permits, the balloon will do a late afternoon

flight as well.

The Varied Industries Tent runs the length of Fifth and Fourth Progress Street and is in between West Progress and Central Progress Avenue. The Touchstone Energy Cooperatives Exhibit will be on the end cap just inside the entrance/exit across from the food court on Fourth Progress Street or half-way down on Fifth Progress Street.

Look for more information soon in Prairie Farmer Magazine to learn more about the 2011 Farm Progress Show or visit their Web site www.farmprogressshow.com.

Hope to see you there.

