

Saddle up and climb a pole

This wasn't your typical rodeo filled with cowboys, horses, bull riding and clowns. This rodeo replaces cowboys with linemen, horses and bull riding with cross arms and poles and then centers the event around safety. The event is the Lineman's Safety Rodeo sponsored by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC).

A team of linemen from Shelby Electric Cooperative (SEC) was First Runner-Up at the 18th Annual Lineman's Safety Rodeo on Friday, Sept. 18th. This year 14 teams participated in the competition.

Each year, teams of linemen from Illinois electric cooperatives participate in competitive events using skills that focus on agility, speed and accuracy. While these skills are part of the competition, most importantly, the linemen are judged on safe work practices.

Line personnel competed in five team and three individual events. Team events included Hurt Man Rescue, Egg Climb (linemen climb a 30-foot pole with a raw egg in their mouth), H Structure Obstacle Course and two Mystery Events. Individuals competed in the Egg Climb and H Structure Obstacle Course. Scores for each event use a 100-point scale and are based upon completion time and proper execution of the task, including safe work practices. Deductions were



Pictured (l-r) are Foremen Brian Chevalier and Matt Clark and Lineman Jamie Sharp from Shelby Electric Cooperative, whose team was First Runner-Up at the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperative's 18th annual Lineman's Safety Rodeo held in Springfield on September 18th.

made to a team or individual's overall performance score due to such things as slipping when climbing poles, dropping tools or executing inappropriate procedures or methods. The Shelby Electric team of Matt Clark, Brian Chevalier and Jamie Sharp persevered through the challenging events to be First Runner-Up.

The Lineman's Safety Rodeo was held on the Chuck West Lineman's Training Field at Lincoln Land Community College (LLCC) in Springfield. LLCC also hosts a lineman training program coordinated by the AIEC. Courses are designed for new



Shelby Electric Cooperative Foremen Brian Chevalier (left) and Matt Clark (right) get a little encouragement as they head to their next event at the Lineman's Safety Rodeo.

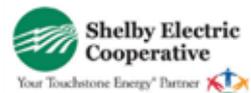
linemen and to help existing electric line personnel improve their work skills in safe and efficient ways.



THANK YOU VETERANS FOR YOUR SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY

from the members, employees and directors of Shelby Electric Cooperative, Shelby Energy Company and PWR-net Wireless Broadband Internet. Remember to Thank a Veteran on November 11th!
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Harvesting energy from the sun

As farmers are wrapping up harvesting their crops for the season, one central Illinois Generation and Transmission Cooperative has just started its harvest. Prairie Power Inc. (PPI), headquartered in Springfield, will not be harvesting corn, beans or wheat, they will be harvesting energy from the sun.

On October 19th, state and local officials were on hand as PPI held a dedication ceremony for the Shelby Solar Farm. This solar farm is located in Shelby County along Highway 16, approximately one mile east of the Lake Shelbyville Dam and was built on property owned by Shelby Electric Cooperative (SEC). This location was chosen because it was available for lease by the cooperative and there were cooperative power lines nearby for the solar farm to tie into the grid.

Over the summer, crews built the structure that holds 2,052 individual solar panels, on five acres of land, creating a 500 kWh solar farm when completed.

A similar dedication occurred near Canton, for the Spoon River



The Shelby Solar Farm went online in September.

Solar Farm, which also is part of the PPI energy portfolio. Both solar farms combined will produce enough electricity to meet the annual needs of 120 homes using an average of 1,200 kWh of electricity each month.

PPI believes in an “all of the above” approach to power supply portfolio planning. Just as with investment and retirement planning, no one wants all their eggs in one basket. PPI has in its portfolio coal, natural gas, oil, wind and now solar generation. Having a diversified portfolio minimizes risk and creates

benefits over the long term as costs of various fuels change.

PPI is the supplier of bulk electricity and electric highline transmission services to 10 member-owned electric distribution cooperatives in Central Illinois which includes SEC. PPI already owns wind generation at a facility located just east of Paxton, as well as a state of the art coal-fired plant located near Marissa. Electric cooperatives in Illinois are self-governed, member-owned enterprises with members sitting on the board of directors at each cooperative.



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



Energy Efficiency *Tip of the Month*

Reduce energy for water heating. Take simple steps like lowering your water heater's temperature and installing low-flow showerheads to reduce your water heating bills.

Why we have planned outages

Every so often you may have received a notification from us at Shelby Electric Cooperative informing you of a “planned outage.” You may have wondered, “what is a planned outage?” and “why does my electric cooperative need to perform one?” Occasionally, the equipment we use to bring power to your home needs to be replaced, repaired or updated. When this happens, as a way to keep our crews and our members safe, we plan an interruption to electric service to do the needed repair.

We do our best to plan these outages during times when you will be least inconvenienced, so we often perform planned outages during school and business hours. We understand there are peak times of the year when you depend on the use of your electricity so we try to avoid these times.

While they may sound slightly inconvenient, planned outages are actually beneficial to you, our members. Regular system upgrades are necessary for optimal performance, and they increase reliability. Repairing and upgrading our equipment is also critical to maintaining public safety. If older lines need to be replaced, we plan for it, repair or replace it and that keeps everyone safe. There are also times during late night outages or storm-related outages when we need to get the power back on as quickly and safely as possible



Planned outages allow cooperative linemen to work on required system repairs safely and efficiently.

sible but then need to go back out during the daylight hours to finish the repair.

Planned outages also allow us to keep you informed of when and how long you will be without power. “We try to notify our members with plenty of notice before a planned outage occurs so they can be prepared; but there are emergency situations where we may not have the ability to give them much notice,” said Operations Superintendent Terry Oldham. “Basically, a planned outage is any type of work that cannot be done safely with the line hot

or with the power on,” said Oldham. “On other occasions, we work with other utilities, our power supplier and even our members needing their power off to do a repair,” added Oldham.

Here at Shelby Electric Cooperative, we want to make sure we are doing everything we can to keep you safe, keep our system running smoothly and ensure our employees are safe on the job. So, the next time you hear about a planned outage, know that it is one of the ways we work to provide you with quality electric service.

Did you know you can now have your cooperative send you an email or text when you will be part of a planned outage? All you need to do is sign up through SmartHub Web, which can be found on the cooperative’s website www.shelbyelectric.coop. Sign in, then click on notifications and select manage contacts. After you decide how you want to receive this type of notification, go to manage notifications and choose to receive planned outages. If you haven’t set up an account yet, you can do this at the same SmartHub Web link. SmartHub how-to videos can be found on the cooperative’s website and on the cooperative’s Facebook page.



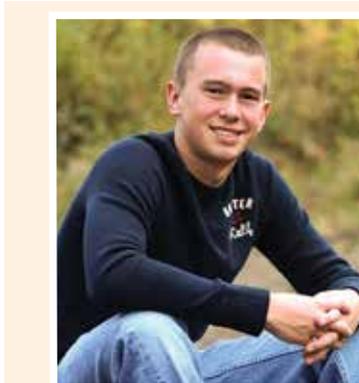
Eight 2016 IEC Memorial Scholarships available

Josh Shallenberger, President/CEO of Shelby Electric Cooperative, has announced that the Illinois electric cooperatives will award eight academic scholarships in 2016 to high school seniors through a memorial scholarship fund designed to financially assist deserving students in the “electric cooperative family.”

The eight scholarships of \$2,000 each will be awarded in 2016 through the Thomas H. Moore Illinois Electric Cooperatives (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program.

Four scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors who are the sons or daughters of an Illinois electric cooperative member receiving service from their cooperative. A fifth scholarship, the Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship, will be awarded to a student who is the son or daughter of an Illinois electric cooperative employee. The sixth and seventh scholarships are reserved for students enrolling full-time at a two-year Illinois community college and are the sons or daughters of Illinois electric cooperative members, employees or directors.

The eighth annual scholarship, the LaVern and Nola McEntire Lineworker’s Scholarship, will help pay for costs to attend the lineworker’s school conducted by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives in conjunction with Lincoln Land Community College



Derrick Knearem (left) received the 2012 LaVern and Nola McEntire Lineworker’s Scholarship and Matthew Durbin (right) received the 2011 IEC Memorial Scholarship.

in Springfield, Illinois. Sons and daughters of co-op members, relatives of co-op employees or directors, individuals enrolled in the Lincoln Land Lineworker’s School and individuals who have served or are serving in the armed forces or National Guard are all eligible for the lineworker’s scholarship.

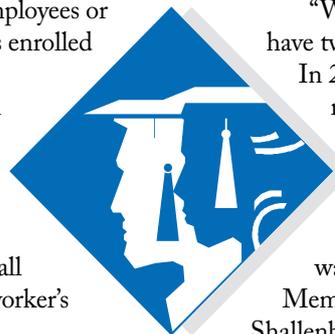
“We hope to assist electric cooperative youth while honoring past rural electric leaders with these scholarships,” says Member Services & Key Accounts Manager Heidi Hall. “Shelby Electric Cooperative and the other Illinois electric cooperatives are always seeking ways to make a difference in our communities. One of the best ways

we can do that is by helping our youth through programs like this.”

“We’ve been fortunate to have two scholarship winners.

In 2012, Derrick Knearem received the LaVern and Nola McEntire Lineworker’s Scholarship and in 2011, Matthew Durbin was a recipient of the IEC Memorial Scholarship,” said Shallenberger.

All necessary paperwork will be sent to area high school guidance counselors and is available for download at the cooperative’s website at www.shelbyelectric.coop under the “Our Community” tab. For more information regarding the scholarships, contact Heidi Hall at 800-677-2612 or email hhall@shelbyelectric.coop.



Daylight saving time reminder

Daylight saving time ends at 2 a.m. on Sunday, November 1st. This will get you an extra hour of rest when you turn your clock back one hour before you go to bed Saturday night.

Local fire officials also recommend changing the batteries in your smoke detector(s) at this time.

Offices Closed

Your cooperative offices will be closed Wednesday, November 11th for Veterans Day and Thursday, November 26th and Friday, November 27th for Thanksgiving.