

January, 1996  
Vol. 45, Number 1

# Adams Outlet

News for Members Of Adams Electrical Co-Operative, Camp Point, Illinois

## Cooperative Plans 37th Annual Contest!



## Adams Outlet

Editor

David Stuva, CREC



**ADAMS OUTLET** (USPS 005-220) is published monthly for \$2.00 per year by Adams Electrical Co-Operative, Highway 24 East, Camp Point, Illinois 62320. Second-class paid at Camp Point, Illinois and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Adams Outlet, Highway 24 East, Camp Point, Illinois 62320.

Office hours:

Monday-Friday

7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*President*

Roger Herren ..... Clayton

*Vice President*

Alvin Dempsey ..... Quincy

*Secretary*

Michael Kelly ..... Huntsville

*Treasurer*

George Schneider ..... Liberty

*Director*

Robert D. Smith ..... Barry

*Director*

Wayne Laning ..... Mt. Sterling

*Director*

Lyle Vincent ..... Camden

*Director*

Kenneth Miller ..... Golden

*Director*

Michael Tenhouse ..... Coatsburg

*General Manager*

Douglas Aeilts ..... Camp Point

*Attorney*

Charles Burton ..... Rushville

### TO REPORT AN OUTAGE

1. Check your fuses and circuit breakers. Do the neighbors have electricity?
2. If the problem appears to be with the cooperative's lines, call the following phone number. Give your name and map number, which is found on the bottom of your electric bill.
3. For service outages, phone:  
**1-800-232-4797**  
 Local calls dial direct:  
**(217) 593-7701**  
 In an emergency, call:  
 Douglas Aeilts ..... 593-7340  
 Norm Henze ..... 696-4873  
 Penny Padgett ..... 593-7155  
 Kris Stanley ..... 593-6585  
 David Stuva ..... 593-7350  
 Don Taylor ..... 696-2364  
 Jim Thompson ..... 222-4935

by Douglas Aeilts  
General Manager

# Communicating with the Membership

Communication is a key element of any successful service organization. Adams Electrical



Co-Operative has a tradition of using various communication forms to get information to the members.

Our most obvious communication tool is this monthly publication, the Adams Outlet. The cooperative is legally required to provide certain information to all members at various times of the year. Examples include: official annual meeting notice and capital credit allocation notification. This monthly publication also allows for other informational articles, marketing, promotions or advertisements to be directed to all members. In addition, there is usually a feature article highlighting a member's business or hobby that is of general interest to all members. Various member surveys have indicated a very high readership of this monthly publication.

A second monthly publication sent to every member is the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperative's Illinois Country Living magazine. This newly revised magazine previously was named Illinois Rural Electric News (REN). The first issue of the revised magazine was mailed earlier this month. Besides a new name, other revisions included heavier paper stock, guest commentary, humor and classified sections, and general interest articles regarding horticulture, home projects, safety, electric energy technology, cooking and personal finance.

Occasionally, the coopera-

tive will use a bill stuffer in your monthly statement to get pertinent information or advertising to all members or sometimes just a targeted group of members. Although limited to one or two pieces of paper, this is a very cost-effective way to communicate.

The member advisory committee has been an effective communication tool since 1957. Two couples from each director district are appointed for a two-year term. The cooperative staff uses the advisory committee to discuss new marketing rates, review the annual meeting, assist with the annual meeting and obtain feedback on cooperative operations and service. After their two-year term, most past members consider their exposure to the electric utility industry to be very educational and rewarding. Last summer the advisory committee toured the Clinton Nuclear Power Station. If asked by a cooperative director to serve on the committee, please give it careful consideration.

The cooperative has also used radio advertising to promote the various special marketing rates available. Radio is generally a specialized advertising that will only be effective for certain targeted audiences, products or services. Typically the radio advertising focuses on cooperative ventures with other organizations or suppliers paying for part of the ad cost.

The cooperative's annual meeting is also a very important member communication tool. Although it's a legal requirement to satisfy our non-profit cooperative status, it also allows for the officers of the cooperative to give reports of the past year's

operations and finances. Our annual meeting has always been a very social event with numerous vendors displaying their products and services. In addition, a friendly family atmosphere is developed by having the meeting in a park with activities for the kids, such as petting zoos and horse rides.

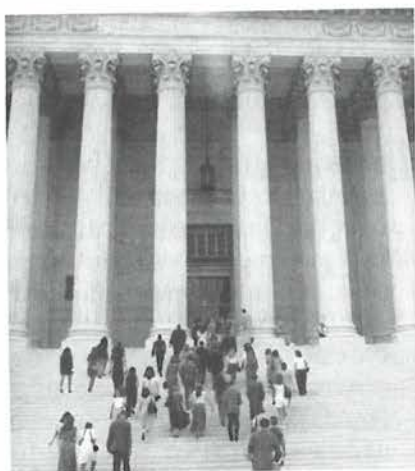
At various times, the cooperative has conducted member meetings in the director districts. This allows good one-on-one contact with the members

who attend. Typically, the attendance has not been very high. But this allows for more questions to be asked and some very candid discussions to occur. Members meetings may be held this spring.

Our most important communication opportunity is when you call the cooperative for information or assistance. All the employees are continually trained to create a "service-first" attitude in everything they do.

This is essential if the cooperative is to survive in the competitive utility industry in the future. The cooperative is fortunate to have an excellent group of employees who are dedicated to their jobs and to the membership.

If you ever feel that you are not being treated fairly or if your questions are not being answered, please contact me immediately. I will follow up any member request. ■



## Cooperative Plans 37th Annual Contest!

An all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., June 14-21, 1996, will be awarded to two area students by Adams Electrical Co-Operative. Any high school sophomore or junior can enter the contest.

### Contest rules

All participants are required to answer five essay questions in 250 words or less. A panel of three judges will evaluate each essay on the basis of content, accuracy, originality and neatness.



Eighteen participants could win a trip to Springfield on Wednesday, May 1, 1996, for "Illinois Rural Electric and Telephone Youth Day."

The cooperative will make all arrangements for the tour which includes: the governor's mansion, state capitol, Lincoln's home, visiting elected officials and other interesting sites.



### Washington, D.C. Trip

The two winners will travel by bus to Washington, D.C. where they will join 2,000 other students from across the nation. While in Washington, the young people will visit the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Printing and Engraving, U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, Supreme Court Building, Library of Congress, White House and many other historical places.

Two alternates will receive \$50 savings bonds and be eligible for the Washington, D.C. trip if one of the winners is unable to attend.

**Contact David Stuva  
at Adams Electrical Co-Operative  
for more details.**



by Mike Roegge,  
Crops Educator,  
Quincy Extension  
Center

# Global Positioning Systems

GPS, VRT, Satellite Farming. These words and phrases are starting to become very familiar to many farmers. You've heard them and may be familiar with them, but what do they mean for you and your farming operation?

GPS is used to help pinpoint locations. With GPS, you can accurately determine your location in a field to within several feet. This can allow you to take a 40-acre field and split it into many smaller fields within the 40 acres. This should allow you then to treat each part of the 40 acres separately. You can apply differing amounts of fertilizer or herbicide, or change plant population within these areas, depending upon the specific needs or abilities of the area.

Satellites and ground towers are used to accurately pinpoint locations. This technology was developed by the military, and recently became available to the public. Several systems are available, but basically they utilize several satellites working together with a ground receiver to accurately determine your position.

GPS simply allows you to glean more information from your farm. Along with this, you'll have to be able to understand what it is you're learning and how to interpret the information.

Two areas of GPS that are available to farmers now are combine yield monitors and variable rate fertilizer and limestone applications. Several companies sell yield monitors. They are priced in the \$3,000 area. Grain yield and moisture are recorded as



you drive through the field. Paying an additional fee allows you to use GPS to locate these yields within the field so that you can generate yield maps. These yield maps, accumulated over several years, can allow you to more closely manage your fields. For instance, if one area of a field is continuously showing a lower yield, you can examine why. Is it soil drainage, compaction, low fertility, soil type, etc? The information gleaned will require you to more closely manage your acres.

Variable rate fertilizer application is also available to farmers. Soil sampling using the satellites and ground receivers is the first step. Each area that is sampled is recorded using the satellites. Soil samples are analyzed and then recommendations made. In a normal field fertilizer application, one rate would be applied to the whole field. Using GPS however, allows varying rates to be applied, based upon the soils needs. Since the soil sampling location is known, the same location can be plugged into the

computer on the spreader truck. So instead of 40 acres receiving the same rate of fertilizer based upon the average of the field, many different "fields" within the 40 acres can be spread based upon the soil test of that area of the field. You can add to those areas deficient and reduce those areas that are high.

Many farmers might believe that this will result in higher yields or fertilizer savings. This may not be true. Just because the fertilizer is spread based upon smaller known areas of the field doesn't mean yield will increase. Yield is based upon many different factors, fertility is only one.

What GPS will do is allow you to determine what parts of the field require differing management strategies. One thing is certain, the farmers using GPS now are finding out that there are more questions than answers as to the information they're gleaning.

Contact your local U. of I. Extension Unit office for more details. ■

# Another Satisfied Customer

When Jim and Marilyn Stout built their new home northwest of Camp Point, they chose quality Hotpoint and G.E. appliances. The Stouts purchased a CTX18G, Hotpoint Refrigerator; an IM1, Hotpoint Icemaker; an RK737, Hotpoint Wall Oven; a JE926 G.E. Downdraft Cooktop; a JE926, G.E. Microwave and a FH15, G.E. Freezer.

They even bought a used refrigerator from Adams Electrical Co-Operative to keep in the garage. Adams Electrical Co-Operative checks out used appliances before they are sold and provides a 30-day warranty. The cooperative will trade for good used appliances.

Jim and Marilyn own and operate 1st Stop Feed Service, which is a KENT Feed Dealership. In May 1994, the Stouts moved into their new home which features "ice-block" construction and has a geothermal heating and cooling system.

"I decided to buy white-on-white appliances for my new kitchen," says Marilyn. "I used to have gold appliances but white is a more neutral color."

"We use our downdraft range all the time. It works great and the downdraft exhaust fan keeps the kitchen free from smoke or food odors."

"We like to buy local," Jim adds. "Service was also important. That's why we bought our appliances from the cooperative." ■



Adams Electrical Co-Operative's full service dealership was an important consideration for Jim and Marilyn Stout when they bought their new appliances.



The Hotpoint CTX18G refrigerator features adjustable glass shelves, two see-thru vegetable/fruit pans and door shelves that hold gallon containers.

Appliances can be seen at the Camp Point  
Showroom between 7:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**Adams Electrical Co-Operative**  
Your Full-Service Appliance Dealer Since 1959  
phone: 800-232-4797

**HOTPOINT**

The Homebuilders Association  
of Quincy & Quincy Mall  
*Presents*  
**1996 Cabin Fever Weekend**

Saturday and Sunday • February 24 & 25, 1996



**ATTENTION  
MEMBERS:**

*Stop by Adams  
Electrical  
Co-Operative's  
booth at Cabin Fever  
Weekend and get  
a \$1.00 credit on  
your April  
electric bill.*

**NEW FOR 1996: Home Financing Fair**

Davis & Associates along with Quincy Mortgage Lenders  
will be sponsoring a Home Financing Fair on  
February 24, noon - 5:00 p.m., in the Community Room.  
This will be an excellent opportunity for prospective  
home buyers to have all their  
questions answered regarding home finances and mortgaging.

*For more information or questions call  
Rick Davis (217)224-8100.*

# Your Money Matters

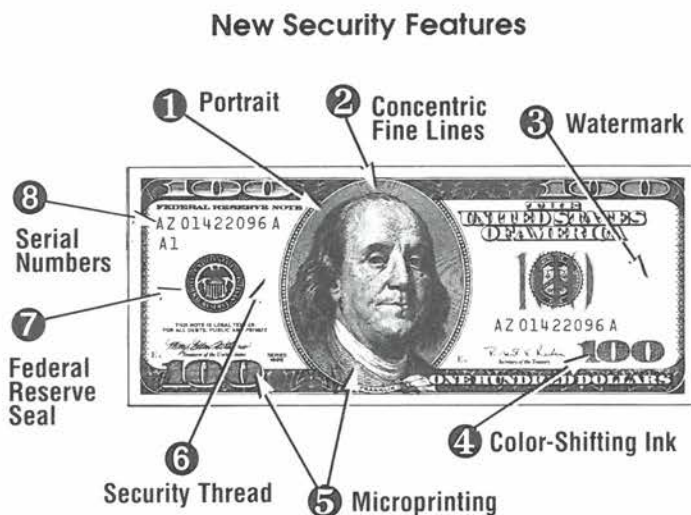
The new 1996 Series U.S. currency incorporates enhanced security features to protect against advancing technology that could be used for counterfeiting. The first note in this series – the \$100 bill – is being issued in early 1996. Lower denominations will follow at 9 to 12 month intervals.

There will be no recall or devaluation of any U.S. currency. Old or new, your currency will always be honored at full face value.

**1 Portrait** The enlarged portrait of Benjamin Franklin is easy to recognize and its new off-center placement reduces wear on the note's most distinctive feature.

**2 Concentric Fine Lines** Fine lines printed behind Franklin's portrait are difficult to replicate.

**3 Watermark** A watermark depicting Franklin is vis-



ible from both sides when held up to a light.

**4 Color-Shifting Ink** The number in the lower right corner looks black when viewed straight on, but appears green when viewed at an angle.

**5 Microprinting** On the front of the note, "USA 100" is printed in the number in the lower left corner. "United States of America" is printed on Franklin's coat.

**6 Security Thread** A ver-

tical polymer thread imprinted "USA 100" can be seen from both sides when held up to a light. This thread glows red under an ultraviolet light.

**7 Federal Reserve Seal** A new universal seal represents the entire Federal Reserve System.

**8 Serial Numbers** A unique combination of eleven numbers and letters is printed in two places on the front of the note. ■

# Your Phone Number is Important!

Adams Electrical Co-Operative would appreciate your phone number so we can update our member files. This phone number will not be released to any organization or other solicitor. Accurate phone numbers are vital when we need to contact a member regarding a billing question, electrical equipment or an outage.

Adams Electrical Co-Operative appreciates your participation. If you have any questions, please contact Kris Stanley or Kay Simpson at (217)593-7701 or 1-800-232-4797.



**MAIL TO: Adams Electrical Co-Operative, P.O. Box 247, Camp Point, IL 62320  
or return with your next electric bill.**

*Last Name*

*First Name*

*Initial*

*R.R. # and P.O. Box*

*City*

*State*

*Zip Code*

*Home phone #*

*Work phone #*

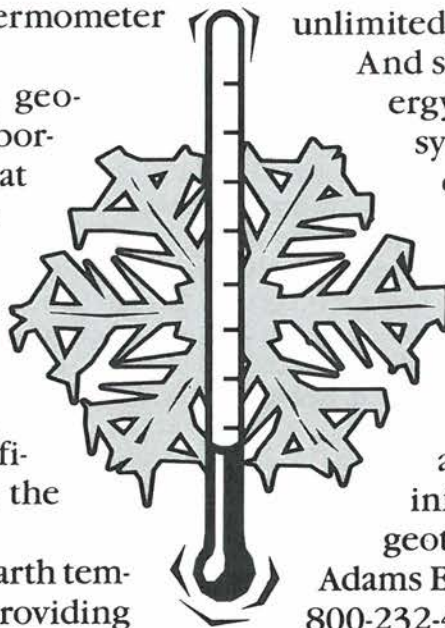
# ON JAN. 6 THE MERCURY HIT -2°

## Geothermal Heating Unaffected

On January 6 the thermometer went down to -2°F.

During the freeze, geothermal systems quietly borrowed most of their heat from the earth...which stayed near a toasty 50°. Unlike fossil fuel furnaces, which make heat by burning propane, oil or natural gas, a geothermal system efficiently uses heat from the earth.

Even when it's -2°, earth temperatures stay warm, providing



unlimited heat energy.

And since most of the heat energy used by a geothermal system comes free from the earth, a geothermal unit costs less to operate than other systems.

Why worry about the outside temperature? Install a geothermal heating, cooling and hot water system. For information call your local geothermal dealer or contact Adams Electrical Co-Operative at 800-232-4797.



**\$500.00 Geothermal Rebate from  
Soyland Power Cooperative**

*(expires June 30, 1996)*



**\$600.00 Geothermal Rebate from  
Adams Electrical Co-Operative**