

Parade of Homes



**Sunday,
June 2, 1996
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**



Cannady Construction built this energy efficient spec home at 16 Timberline Drive in Timberline subdivision. This home features two air-to-air heat pumps with electric backup.



You can tour Richard and Linda Mettemeyer's new home, built by Holtmeyer Construction, on Sunday June 2. The home features geothermal heating and air conditioning and is located at 16 Catamaran Court in Hidden Cove subdivision.



Stupavsky Construction built Rod and Debra Moore's home at 55 Timberline Drive in Timberline subdivision. The home features a geothermal system for heating, cooling and hot water.

*Sponsored by the
Home Builders Association of Quincy*

For more information and a complete map,
see the Saturday, June 1, insert in the Quincy Herald-Whig.

Adams Outlet

Editor

David Stuva, CREC



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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

Reviewing the Assessment Increase

There have been several additional questions asked since the March announcement of the assessment schedule increase and my article in the April's Adams Outlet.



Every note and letter received from a member has been answered. Many of these questions are very similar in content. Last month I discussed six questions and this month I have selected five additional questions that I thought would be of interest. I would be willing to meet with you if you wish to further discuss the increase or answer any questions in more detail. Just call the office.

What is the difference between an Assessment increase and a Rate increase?

Adams Electrical Co-Operative is organized in Illinois as a not-for-profit corporation and a cooperative. A cooperative is owned by all the member-users of the corporation. Every active member of the cooperative has an equal vote at the cooperative's annual meeting. It doesn't make any difference whether you are a large user of electricity or if you are a minimum user of electricity, you still have one vote. Since the cooperative is a not-for-profit corporation, the assessment schedules are designed to recover the actual costs of delivering electricity to the electric meter. There is not a profit to pass on to stockholders. Therefore, the cooperative has electric assessments rather than electric rates. The members are assessed for the actual costs of delivering electricity to the meter. At the end of the year, if there is any margin (ex-

cess revenue after all expenses are paid), the margin is allocated back to the members based on the amount of electricity that they purchased. In contrast, an investor-owned utility charges an electric rate that is designed to pay a large dividend to their stockholders.

Your announcement stated that the assessments had not been increased since April 1985, but my assessment schedule booklet is dated April 1986. Why the difference?

The cooperative's last INCREASE was in April 1985. But the assessment schedule booklets were reprinted in April 1986 because the Illinois State Legislature changed the Illinois Public Utility Revenue Tax law. This change resulted in a reduction in the utility taxes that most members were required to pay. The assessment schedules were revised to accommodate the changes in the law and allow the members to pay the lower utility tax. Therefore, the last assessment increase was in 1985 but the assessment schedules and booklets were last reprinted in 1986.

Why doesn't the cooperative consider smaller but more frequent assessment schedule increases rather than larger but less frequent increases?

The board of directors has discussed this topic on many occasions. There are several advantages and disadvantages. Our power supplier, Soyland Power Cooperative, has been diligently working to reduce their wholesale power rates. They were very close to a deal with Illinois Power Company in 1995 that would have reduced our power supply costs. This deal could not be completed because the federal government (Soy-

land's banker) would not agree to the concessions required. Otherwise, the board of directors probably would have considered an assessment schedule increase in 1995. There are also several costs involved with each change in assessment schedules. These costs include: review and analysis of our existing assessment structure; cost of service study; printing and mailing of assessment booklets. It is estimated that these expenses were approximately \$18,000 for the 1996 assessment change. It is forecasted that this assessment increase will be sufficient until at least 1999. But it is anticipated that Soyland will be taking action this year to reduce their wholesale power rates before 1999. If Soyland is successful, the next assessment change will be a decrease.

How much additional revenue is anticipated to be received from this assessment increase?

Based on the rate study completed in March 1996, it is anticipated that this assessment increase will generate approximately \$600,000 additional revenue in 1996 and \$900,000 in 1997 and beyond. This estimate was based on several assump-

tions that were analyzed and determined to be realistic but not guaranteed. The actual revenue received will not be determined until the end of this year. The cooperative's revenue is very dependent on both the winter and summer weather patterns and the crop drying requirements in the fall. The cooperative's load growth is also dependent on construction activity in our service territory. **How can the cooperative justify an assessment increase and then provide a 0%, 10 year loan to the Adams County Highway department for road improvements?**

An article in the Quincy Herald-Whig on April 10, 1996, described Adams County's 1996 highway construction projects. This article mentioned the cooperative providing a \$150,000, 0%, interest loan but did not mention the grant received by the cooperative.

In 1994, the cooperative submitted a \$400,000 grant application to the United States Department of Agriculture-Rural Business and Cooperative Development Service (USDA-RBCDS). The grant was awarded to the cooperative in 1995. The

grant proceeds are required to be used to establish a revolving loan fund under the control of the cooperative's board of directors. The initial distribution of the grant funds must go to a not-for-profit corporation or unit of local government at zero percent (0%) interest for up to ten (10) years. After the initial loan, and as the loan payments are received by the cooperative, the board of directors will establish the revolving loan fund to assist small businesses in our electric service area. There are no "strings" attached to the grant funds after the initial loan is made and the loan payments are deposited in the cooperative's revolving loan fund.

The cooperative's board of directors approved a \$150,000, 0%, 10-year loan to the Adams County Highway Department for improving a road that will service the new Baldwin Business Park at the Quincy airport. Part of the grant funds will be used to provide the money for this loan. The cooperative will be the power supplier at the new business park. The cooperative is reviewing several other potential projects for the remaining \$250,000 of grant funds. ■

Mark your calendar

The board of directors hopes that you can find the time to come to the annual meeting this year.



Keep in mind that what makes Adams Electrical Co-Operative unique is that it is YOUR cooperative. You have a voice, and the annual meeting is a good way to let it be heard. We hope to see you there.

Mark your calendar to attend the annual meeting on Wednesday, September 4, 1996, at Bailey Park in Camp Point. We will be announcing more details in the coming months. ■

From left are Tim Sheely, Liberty High School; Shelly Stienbarger, Southeastern High School and Harry Hahn, Abraham Lincoln impersonator, Mt. Pulaski, Illinois. Sheely and Stienbarger were the winners in Adams Electrical Co-Operative's 37th Annual "Youth to Washington" contest.



Sheely and Stienbarger are Winners of Washington D.C. tour

The winners of Adams Electrical Co-Operative's 37th Annual "Youth to Washington" contest are Tim Sheely of Liberty High School and Shelly Stienbarger from Southeastern High School. Tim is the son of Robert and Patricia Sheely, 131 Lakeshore Hills, Fowler, and Shelly is the daughter of Philip and Myrna Stienbarger, 104 Center, Augusta.



Students representing Adams Electrical Co-Operative listen in the House chambers as Rep. Art Tenhouse describes the legislative process.

Alternates are Tegan Orpet of Central High School and Jarrod Sheets of Rushville High School. Tegan is the daughter of Robert and Darice Orpet, R.R. 1, Fowler, and Jarrod is the son of George Sheets, R.R. 1, Huntsville. If a winner is unable to go to Washington, D.C., an alternate would then be eligible to take the trip. Both alternates receive a \$50 U.S. Savings Bond.

Each participant in Adams Electrical Co-Operative's "Youth to Washington" contest is required to write an essay on five different questions. A panel of three judges grades each essay to determine the two winners and two alternates.

Tim and Shelly will assemble with more than 60 other high school students representing Illinois electric cooperatives on Friday, June 14, to travel aboard a chartered bus to Washington, D.C. They will be accompanied by several chaperones and return to Springfield on June 21.

During their expense-paid week in Washington, D.C., Tim and Shelly join approximately 1,000 other students from 30 states for "Rural Electric Youth Week," sponsored by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Activities include touring the U.S. Capitol, Library of Congress, Arlington National Cemetery, Smithsonian Institution, Washington Monument and other national shrines. The group will also enjoy a special tour of the White House and have an opportunity to meet their senators and representatives. ■

Nominating Committee will meet June 24

According to the bylaws adopted in 1984, the nominating committee must meet and prepare a list of nominees at least 60 days before the annual meeting. This year the annual meeting will be Wednesday, September 4, 1996. The committee will meet in the cooperative office at the east edge of Camp Point on Route 24 at 7:30 p.m. on June 24, 1996. Within three working days following completion of the nominating process, a list of nominees will be posted in the lobby of the cooperative office.

The secretary shall be responsible for mailing to each member at least 40 days before the date of the annual meeting a statement of the number of board members to be elected and the names and addresses of the candidates nominated in each district.

The secretary shall be responsible for mailing with the notice of the annual meeting, or separately, but at least seven days before the date of the annual meeting, a statement of the number of board members to be elected and the names and addresses of candidates nominated by the committee and by petition, if any. The names of the candidates shall be arranged by district.

The cooperative is divided into nine districts of representation of membership and each district is represented by one director. Directors serve three-year terms. Their terms in office are

staggered so that three of the nine directors are elected each year. The districts and areas represented are as follows:

To be elected in 1996

District 4 Consisting of Mt. Sterling, Elkhorn, Ripley, Cooperstown and Versailles Townships of Brown County.

District 5 Consisting of St. Mary Township of Hancock County; Bethel and LaMoine townships of McDonough County; Birmingham, Camden, Huntsville and Brooklyn townships of Schuyler County.

District 6 Consisting of Melrose, Fall Creek, Payson, Richfield and Beverly Townships of Adams County; Kinderhook, Barry, Fairmont and Hadley Townships of Pike County.

At the 1995 annual meeting, the following members were elected to serve on the 1996 nominating committee:

District 4

Harold Lewis RR 3, Box 240 Mt. Sterling, IL	Robert Lawson RR 3, Box 238 Mt. Sterling, IL
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District 5

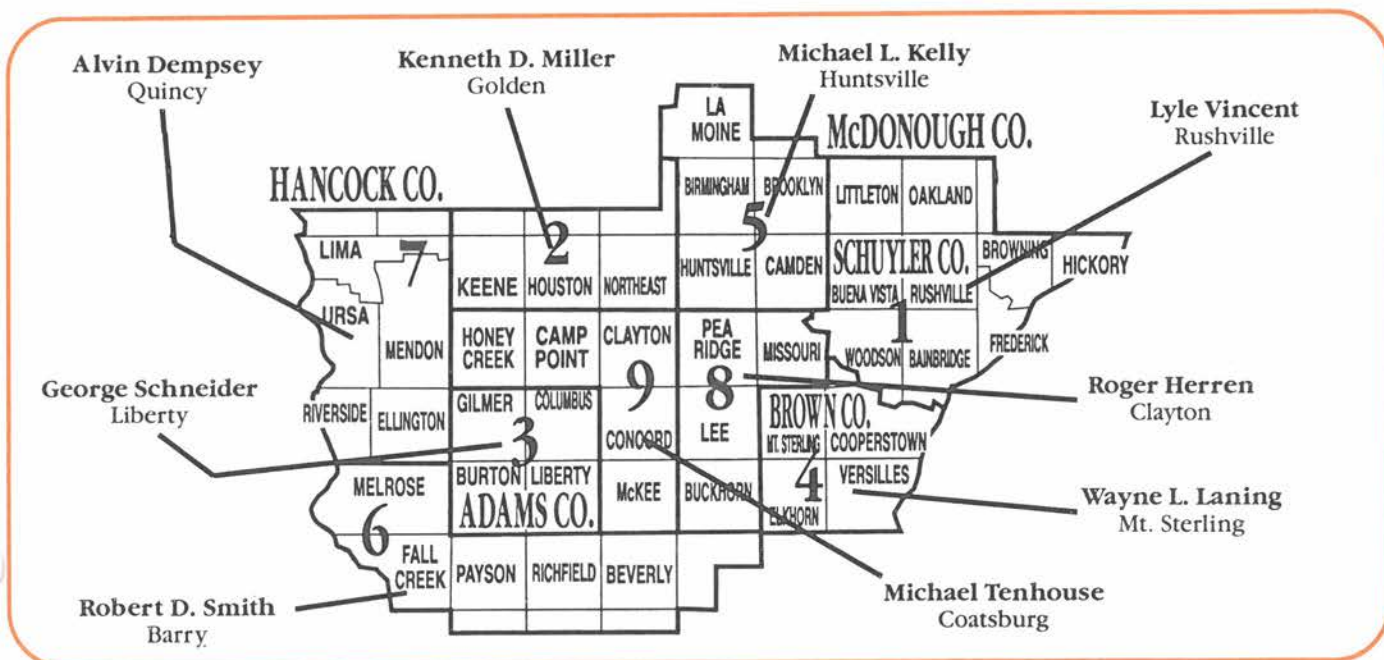
Dixie Croxton RR 1, Box 49 Huntsville, IL	Richard King RR 1, Box 32 Huntsville, IL
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District 6

Robert T. Howell RR 1, Box 398 Payson, IL	Marvin L. Miller RR 1, Box 272 Payson, IL
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Member at Large:

Delbur Knorr
RR 1, Box 108A
Golden, IL ■



**“Building
energy
efficient
homes
is my
business.
That’s why
I installed
a geothermal
system.”**



Peters Heating & Air Conditioning installed a geothermal system for Peggy and Jim Hesse of R.R. 2, Mendon. The Hesses built their home in 1976. It has 1,500 square feet of living space.

In his daily business, Jim Hesse deals with a wide variety of heating and cooling systems. So when it was time to choose the best heating and cooling system for his home and family, Jim invested in a geothermal system.

“I recommend geothermal systems when I build homes on Adams Electrical Co-Operative’s line,” Jim says. “The cooperative’s 4¢ rate and cash rebates are a big incentive to homeowners.”

What makes a geothermal system the safest, most energy

efficient heating and cooling system available today? The revolutionary way in which it gathers and distributes the earth’s natural energy to provide geothermal heating and cooling, plus hot water for your home.

Fact is, a geothermal system is more than three times as efficient as conventional heating and cooling systems.

“Our electric bills only increased a little when we began using a geothermal system and that’s amazing considering we

used to heat our home with wood. That’s what I call efficiency!” Jim says.

Jim Hesse has been a builder for 18 years and owns/operates Hesse Builders Inc. Peggy is an elementary special education teacher for the Southeastern School District. The Hesses have four children: Jenny, Curt, Ben and Diane.

For more information on a geothermal system, call Adams Electrical Co-Operative at 1-800-232-4797. ■

**\$500.00 Geothermal Rebate from
Soyland Power Cooperative**
(expires December 31, 1996)

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



Think Safety First When Preparing Meals for the Field

Taking food to the field is a common practice at this time of year and for those who are consuming the food, safety should be a prime importance according to Shirley Camp, Extension Educator for Nutrition and Wellness in the Macomb Extension Center.

There are several factors that are involved in making sure the food that is carried to the field stays safe, according to Camp. The first factor is to follow the basic food safety rules: make sure that hot foods are kept hot, cold foods are kept cold, foods are cooked thoroughly and everything is kept clean. These basic food safety rules need to be followed to help reduce the bacterial growth that can cause foodborne illness.

The danger zone for foods is holding them at temperatures between 40 and 140 degrees F. for more than two hours. This second factor of time is of vital



importance, Camp says. If the food must be prepared and taken to the field, make sure that it can be kept cold enough until it is eaten to help avoid the bacterial growth that occurs. It is difficult to hold food at safe temperatures particularly if the food is kept in a truck or tractor cab where the temperatures can be at the upper end of the danger zone range.

Food purchased at fast food restaurants and held in the truck or tractor can also pose problems. When the outdoor temperature rises above 70 degrees, the time factor is reduced. Warm sandwiches, for example, held at 70 degree temperatures can become unsafe within an hour or so according to Camp. If you plan to eat fast food, it is best to take a break from the field and go to



the restaurant to eat the food when it is fresh. The break will also help re-energize workers who have been driving through the field all day and may help reduce accidents.

Another important factor emphasized by Camp is the importance of hand washing before eating foods. "Farmers and other individual who may be applying chemicals at this time of year need to pay particular attention to making sure that they wash their hands with soap and water to remove any chemical residue," says Camp. Chemical residue on the hands can be transferred to food eaten with the hands and can cause other types of illness later on. Individuals who handle

chemicals should also make sure to carry some type of handcleaning materials that they can use before going to the bathroom or before smoking to help reduce the risk of transferring the chemicals to other parts of their bodies.

If you have questions about food safety, contact your local extension unit office. ■

A director's responsibilities

According to information compiled by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) in Washington, D.C., a director's responsibility consists of having the ability and knowledge to set policy and approve programs that are the basis for operating the cooperative. A director must have the time to attend monthly board meetings and other special meetings and seminars. These special sessions are necessary to keep directors informed on the various aspects of the cooperative and the elec-

tric utility industry. Other criteria of a board member as identified by NRECA include:

- Be an independent thinker, but a cooperator;
- Be capable of acquiring the knowledge necessary to cope with the issues of a modern electric utility, including finances, management and public issues;
- Possess the character and demeanor that will reflect favorably on behalf of the cooperative;
- Have the willingness to lis-

ten and learn;

- Be one who can accept and direct change;
- Be of sufficient stature to command the respect of management, employees, fellow board members and the public;
- Be willing to commit adequate time to the work of the board to be an effective member and properly discharge the duties of the board;
- Subordinate personal and other business interests to the needs of the cooperative when making a decision;
- Be willing to accept the unpleasant moments of a director's experience. ■

A "Cool" Summer Sale!!!



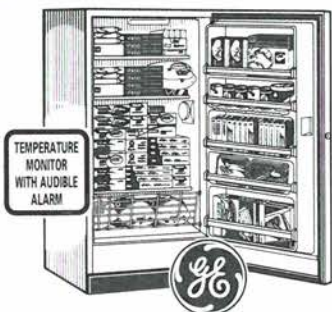
18.2 cu. ft. capacity refrigerator

- Adjustable glass shelves.
- Snack pan.
- Door shelves hold gallon containers.
- Equipped for optional icemaker.
- 2 see-thru vegetable/fruit pans.

Just
\$599.95



Model CTX18GAX



Model FP14DS

14.0 CU. FT. CAPACITY UPRIGHT FREEZER

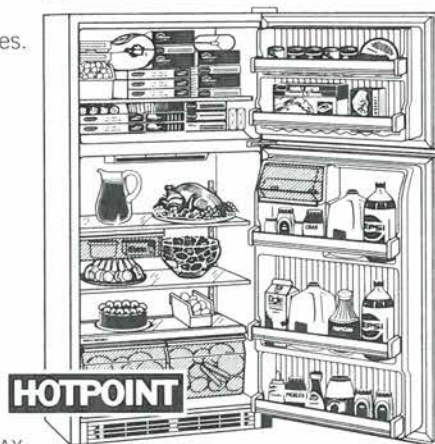
- 3 refrigerated shelves with top cold plate.
- 5 door shelves.
- Drop-front bulk storage retainer.
- Interior light.

Just
\$499.95

20.6 cu. ft. capacity no-frost refrigerator

- Adjustable glass shelves.
- Snack pan.
- Door shelves hold gallon containers.
- Equipped for optional icemaker.
- 2 see-thru vegetable/fruit pans.

Just
\$699.95



Model CTX21GAX



George Clark
Serviceman

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



Candace Weeks
Member Services Asst.

HOTPOINT