

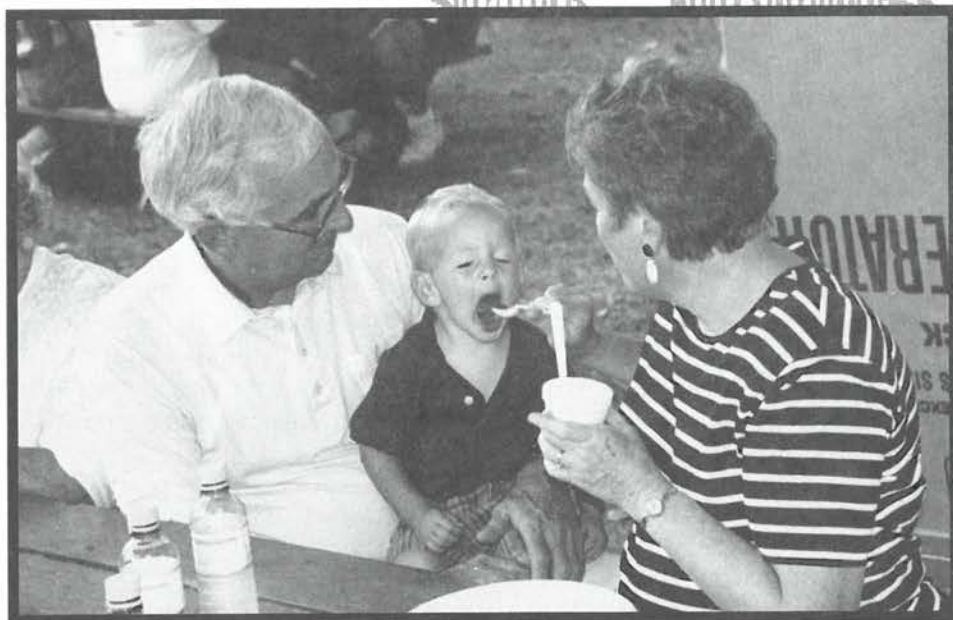
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Adams Outlet

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

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We're Main Street — not Wall Street



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
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by Douglas Aeilts
General Manager

Soyland Buyout will Mean Lower Electric Rates

I am excited to announce that Soyland Power Co-operative has recently completed a government loan buyout and eliminated all of its ownership of the Clinton Nuclear Power Station. The negotiations for these plans have been ongoing for nearly two years.

Soyland had a \$1 billion debt associated with its 13.2% ownership in the Clinton Nuclear plant. This debt is what has caused Soyland's wholesale power costs to be the highest of any generation and transmission cooperative in the nation. The average wholesale power costs for generation and transmission in the USA is 4.4 cents. This investment represented stranded costs that Soyland needed to eliminate.

The government, through USDA-RUS (Rural Utility Service), provided all the financing for this generating plant. Two separate debt restructures in 1987 and 1993 successfully stabilized our wholesale power costs but didn't lower them to competitive levels.

Last year, I announced that Illinois Power Company was going to buy the Clinton Power Station and provide a long-term power contract to Soyland. The government refused to write off any debt at that time and the deal was shelved in November 1995.

The Soyland board of directors was very serious about getting our wholesale power costs competitive in the near future so that we could compete in the deregulated electric utility industry. The Soyland board voted to file Chapter 11 bankruptcy

on June 30, 1996. The government refused and a negotiated settlement was reached prior to the filing date.

On Sept. 13, 1996, Soyland completed the buyout of its \$1 billion total government debt—retroactive July 1, 1996.

The government agreed to a \$235 million payment for Soyland's total debt. This buyout was financed by the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation. Half of this loan was guaranteed by the individual member cooperatives, including Adams. This debt is projected to be paid off in five years or 2001.

In addition, Illinois Power Company (a subsidiary of Illinova) agreed to cancel all existing power supply contracts and to assume all ownership and liability for the Clinton Power Station. This is an efficient generating plant, but Soyland is not large enough to assume all the potential liability that is associated with a nuclear power plant.

Soyland also signed a 10-year power supply contract with Illinova Power Marketing (a subsidiary of Illinova) to become the exclusive supplier of electricity to its member cooperatives. The costs of electric power in this contract are very competitive with the market today and will be throughout the term of the contract. Both the Illinois Power and Illinova agreements were effective on Sept. 1, 1996.

Soyland has proposed to reduce the wholesale power costs to Adams Electrical on Jan. 1, 1997, from 7.2 cents to 6.2

continued on page 3...



Two Directors Retire at 1996 Annual Meeting!

This year, two long-time directors retired from Adams Electrical Co-Operative's board of directors. Wayne Laning has served as director from District 4 in Brown County for 39 years, including 10 years as board president and 23 years as a director for the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC). Wayne also held the offices of treasurer of the AIEC Board of Directors for two years and secretary for three years.

Robert Smith has served as an Adams Electrical Co-Operative director from District 6 for 30 years, including six years as board president and a Soyland Power Cooperative director for twelve years. Bob held the office of vice chairman of the Soyland board during 1995-96 and presently serves on the executive committee as immediate past chairman. Combined, these two fine gentlemen provided 72 years of valuable service to the cooperative. Their leadership was recognized at the Sept. 4, 1996, Annual Meeting with the presentation of Board Leadership certificates.

Wayne and his wife, Mildred, live at R.R. 3, Mt. Sterling and have two children and three grandchildren. Wayne is a graduate of Mt. Sterling High School and is a grain and livestock farmer. The Lanings are members of the Ripley Church of God of the Abrahamic Faith. Wayne is a past Brown County school board member, served as director for the Brown County Rural Fire Association and serves as director for the Mutual Fire Insurance Company.

Bob and his wife, Nancy, live at R.R. 1, Barry and have two children and six grandchil-

dren. Bob is a graduate of Payson High School and is a self-employed insurance broker who he has been in the business for 31 years. Nancy is the national sales coordinator for KHQA-TV. Bob is an elder at Akers Chapel in Plainville; he has served as past board member and president of Payson Community Unit District 1 Schools and serves as supervisor for Richfield Township.

Wayne and Bob's expertise and knowledge will be missed in the future. The board of directors and employees of Adams Electrical Co-Operative appreciate their time and effort. ■



Directors Bob Smith, left, and Wayne Laning were presented Board Leadership certificates after retiring with 72 years of combined experience on Adams Electrical Co-Operative's Board of Directors.

Soyland Buyout continued...

cents per kilowatt-hour. This reduction will allow the \$235 million debt to be paid off in five years and provide for some immediate rate relief to the member cooperatives. After 2001, the wholesale power costs will drop to 3.9 cents per kilowatt-hours, which is an extremely competitive rate.

I want to thank Congressman Durbin for his assistance with Soyland's negotiations. He played a key role in keeping the appropriate government offi-

cials involved in the negotiating process. Without his assistance, Soyland would have filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy and cooperative members would not have seen any rate relief for at least four years.

With Soyland's plan to provide competitive wholesale rates by the year 2001, Adams Electrical Co-Operative can also begin preparations to provide competitive retail rates. Our wholesale power costs are nearly 70 percent of our total expenses. Making sure Soyland has competitive

rates was an absolute requirement for Adams to survive in the competitive electric utility environment in the future. Any savings realized from lower wholesale power costs will be passed on to our members.

The directors, management and employees are very excited about the opportunities presented by the new Soyland wholesale power costs. These opportunities will be thoroughly evaluated to provide the most benefit to cooperative members. ■

The 1996 Annual Meeting



A 70-foot view, via a utility basket truck, of Adams Electrical Co-Operative's Annual Meeting in Camp Point's beautiful Bailey Park. More than 1,850 people attended Adams Electrical Co-Operative 57th Annual Meeting Sept. 4, 1996.

When electric utilities go through the turbulence of deregulation like the telephone industry has, will rural customers be lost in the shuffle? Adams Electrical Co-Operative is aiming to see that its members are treated fairly as utilities and commercial customers maneuver



Three directors were elected to seats on the co-op's board of directors. From left: Bob Willis of Mt. Sterling, General Manager Douglas H. Aeilts, Mike Kelly of Huntsville and John Kestner of Payson. Willis was in a contested election with George Huseman of Versailles and Lyle Lewis of Mt. Sterling for a District 4 director's seat.

for the best deals.

Douglas Aeilts, general manager, described electric deregulation to members who attended the cooperative's 1996 Annual Meeting. The event took place at Bailey Park, Camp Point, on Wednesday, Sept. 4.

Though Illinois has no legislative proposals for "retail wheeling," the concept of consumer choice for electric suppliers is growing in popularity.

"The real push for retail wheeling and competition is coming from the big industrial and commercial users," Manager Aeilts said. They have lower rates now than residential and farm users and they want their rates to go even lower. Utilities must have enough income to pay expenses, he said, and if large users get their rates reduced, smaller commercial users and residential consumers will be left to cover those expenses.

Other concerns are, "Will every electric user be treated equally, or will the urban residential consumer be given a lower rate than a rural consumer? Will you receive two or three other bills for service as you might now for telephone use? And how long will it be before you can shop around for your electricity?"

Illinois electric cooperatives have adopted a position encouraging competition if all consumers are given the right at the same time to choose a supplier.

Manager Aeilts also touched on battles the cooperative is fighting to serve consumers in its own service territory. In 1971 Illinois elec-

tric cooperatives and other electric utilities signed Service Area Agreements staking out the regions each would serve.

However, CIPS is seeking to intrude on Adams Electrical's most profitable territories. Rural areas that once had few customers are now seeing growth that brings in residential developments and commercial sites. In the past, CIPS found the areas unprofitable to run electric lines to but now wants these regions. Quincy's east side and the new John Wood Community College campus are two such locations. The cooperative has served the site of the new campus since 1939, and the college's board of trustees requested service from Adams for the new facility.

"Despite all this," Aeilts said, "the cooperative is being forced to defend our territorial rights. The cooperative is experiencing similar battles throughout our service territory, including a new subdivision north of Camp Point and the new medical clinic near Golden."

Treasurer George Schneider of Liberty reported that Adams Electrical's kilowatt-hour sales increased by 5.1 percent over 1994 sales, a record-setting year. "This marked the highest electric sales in recent cooperative history, and is a reflection of the cooperative's marketing efforts and favorable weather conditions."

One difference between electric cooperatives and other utilities is that a co-op's members elect directors to their governing board. Two longtime directors retired from the board

at this year's annual meeting. Wayne Laning of Mt. Sterling has served on the board for 39 years 10 of those as the board president. Robert D. Smith of Barry has been a director for 30 years, and six years as board president.

Three area men were elected to three-year terms on the Adams Electrical board during the annual meeting. New to the board are Robert Willis of Mt. Sterling, who replaces Laning, and John Kestner of Payson, who fills the seat vacated by Smith. Incumbent Mike Kelly of Huntsville was re-elected. ■



Besides a petting zoo from Central High School, Kenny Gooding provided pony rides for the younger children.



A new addition to the 1996 Annual meeting was free basket rides for adults and children.

Prize Winners 1996 Annual Meeting

Allgeier, Martin & Assoc, Inc	Can Opener	Rita Mowen, <i>Liberty</i>
Daffrons & Associates, Inc	Indoor Grill	Fleta Burke, <i>Loraine</i>
Drake-Scruggs	Portable Work Lamp	Linda King, <i>Huntsville</i>
Electric Lab & Sales Corp	Hand-held Can Opener	Michael Dedert, <i>Ursa</i>
Fletcher-Reinhart Company	12" Oscillating Fan	William E. Speckhart, <i>Payson</i>
Gem City Electric Co.	Amp Probe	Florence Fitzgarrold, <i>Huntsville</i>
KenWay Company Halfpap	Coffee Maker	Siegfried Halfpap, <i>Quincy</i>
R.R. Kinyon	Clock Radio	Terry Wells, <i>Quincy</i>
Solomon Corporation	Golf Umbrella	Gerald K. Rudicil, <i>Liberty</i>
Utility Marketing	Jacket	Harold Hyen, <i>Camp Point</i>
	Duffel Bag	Betty Wenger, <i>Rushville</i>
	Shirt	Cletus Barker, <i>Mt. Sterling</i>
United Utility Supply Inc	Crock Pot	Russell Miller, <i>Mendon</i>
White Electric Company	Cooler Set	Wilbur Flesner, <i>La Prairie</i>
WaterFurnace Midwest	Ice Cream Maker	Robert Dewitt, <i>Mt. Sterling</i>



Sabine Hocking won the grand prize, an 18-cubic-foot Hotpoint refrigerator donated by General Electric.

Adams Electrical
Co-Operative

\$25.00 Credits

Laurence R. Harris,
Quincy
Victor Bowman,
Camp Point
Katherine C. Dietrich,
Quincy
Algia M. Jones,
Huntsville
Amelia Leenerts,
Clayton

Grand Prize:
General Electric

Hotpoint
Refrigerator

Sabine &
Bruce W. Hocking,
Liberty

Mike Olson is New Service Technician

Mike Olson is Adams Electrical Co-Operative's new service technician. His first day of work was July 22, 1996. Mike will be replacing George Clark, who is retiring on Oct. 31, 1996 after 40 years of service at Adams Electrical Co-Operative.

Mike is a 1989 graduate of



Perry High School in Perry, Illinois, and a 1990 graduate of the Universal Technical Institute of Houston, Texas. He is a second-year apprentice plumber, EPA certified as Type 1 and 2 technician and has over 900 hours of HVAC and Commercial Refrigeration training. Previously,

Mike has been employed with Lueders Plumbing & Heating in Camp Point and Ideal Hardware Pro, Inc. in Pittsfield.

Mike and his wife, Roxanne, live in Golden. Roxanne is employed as Member Services Representative for Adams Telephone Co-Operative in Golden. In his spare time, Mike enjoys remodeling his home and playing golf. ■

Composting — *Like Making Lasagna!*

Composting — an ancient art but a fairly new addition to most urban gardens is nothing more than mixing by-products from your yard with water, air and time. What better way to dispose of leaves in the fall, grass clippings throughout the growing season and kitchen vegetable scraps, than to turn them into compost?

"The days of putting your 'yard-waste' at the curb side to be hauled away are gone," explains Martha Smith, Horticulture Educator with the University of Illinois Cooperative Extension Service. "If you are willing to put in the effort, you can haul them yourself to a compost facility. But why not channel that energy into layering the materials in your own back yard? The end result is a nutrient rich, earthy-smelling, valuable, free soil additive!"

The basic concept of a compost pile was described very effectively by a fellow-horticulturist. You take by-products from your yard, and layer them thinly and uniformly, the same way lasagna is made with thin layers of pasta, cheese and sauce. Never overdoing any one single layer and never skipping a layer in the construction process will prove successful.

Locate the compost pile in an inconspicuous but accessible area. The pile should not be located in an area where water accumulates and avoid heavy shade. The size of the compost pile can be as large as you like, but aeration by turning may become too difficult if the pile is larger than 5 feet wide and 5 feet deep. The average homeowner compost pile size is 3 feet by 3 feet.

A compost pile can be as simple as piling up of materials in a corner of your yard, or you can build a bin. An enclosure can be made from woven wire

(chicken wire or chain link fencing), wood slats, used pallets, cement blocks, bricks, lattice, or scrap lumber. Whatever you choose, you need to allow air in through the sides. Bricks and cement blocks do not need to be mortared. Fencing material will need corner supports. Sometimes woven wire can be too flexible. If the openings are too big, material can fall through so you may want to line it with a plastic and poke aeration holes into it.

Starting on bare soil, organic matter will be the first layer. A ratio of 1 part grass clippings to 2 parts fallen leaves is a good way to start. You can mix in vegetable scraps from the kitchen or debris from your garden clean up as long as you start with the basic ratio. The second layer should be animal manures or fertilizer. These materials give the pile a jump-start. Don't use cat, dog or human manure. If using manure, a 2-inch layer will be fine, and if using 10-10-10, one cup sprinkled over a 3 X 3 bin is fine. The third layer is garden soil or aged compost. These materials add the necessary microorganisms to get the pile working. Water, and start over with the organic material, followed with manure or fertilizer followed by soil. Keep layering (just like lasagna) and watering until you run out of material or reach the top of your bin. Now you wait. After 2 to 4 weeks your pile should be hot in the center. This indicates your pile is working (the lasagna is cooking). Failure to heat

would indicate a construction flaw, too much or too little water, too little nitrogen or too little a pile.

Your pile is now breaking down the materials. A compost thermometer should indicate a peak temperature between 120 to 150 degrees F for 3 to 5 days. This is followed by a temperature drop to somewhere around 100 to 120 degrees F. This temperature drop indicates your pile needs air, it needs to be turned. A compost pile needs water and air to work properly. If the pile seems dry when you turn it, add water. You continue monitoring the temperature, turning and watering the pile for 4 to 9 months. After this, you should have a usable product. If you keep the pile going longer, you will just have a finer end product. You only need to layer with soil and manure/fertilizer in the beginning. Now as you turn the pile, you can add more organic material. Realize that your pile will take longer to become a finished product due to the addition of this fresh material.

Compost is really "Black Gold!" the value of compost in the garden cannot be refuted. The recyclability of organic matter from nature's by-product to a useful soil amendment is an environmentally friendly way of using organic wastes and eliminating trips to the garbage can or dump. If you would like more information on composting, contact your local Cooperative Extension Office for more information. ■



Fall Sale

Radiant Top Range with Self-cleaning Oven

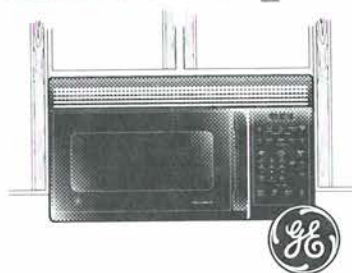


RB787GT

- Smooth, easy to clean patterned glass ceramic cooktop.
- 4 hot lights stay on until surface cools.
- Auto oven shut-off turns the oven off after 12 hours.
- Black glass oven door.

ONLY \$659.95

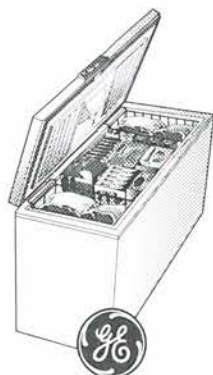
Spacemaker XL Microwave Oven



JVM1340BW

- Large 1.3 cu. ft. oven cavity with temperature probe, 900 watts.
- Turntable on/off feature.
- Interactive scrolling display conveniently provides step-by-step instructions.
- Full-view cooktop light, night light and hi-capacity, 2-speed exhaust system.

ONLY \$389.95



**21.7
Cu. Ft.
Capacity
Chest
Freezer**

FH22DX

- Adjustable temperature control with audible alarm.
- 2 removable sliding baskets.
- Interior light and lock with self-ejecting key.
- Upfront defrost drain.

ONLY \$529.95

20.6 cu. ft. Capacity No-frost Refrigerator

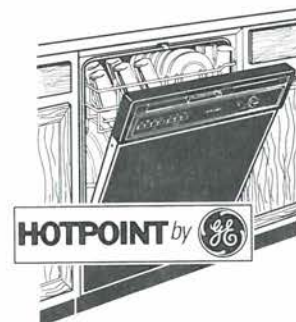


CTX22EAX

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

ONLY \$659.95

Built-in dishwasher



- 5 cycles and 19 options.
- Pots and Pans & water Saver cycles.
- 6-hour delay start option.
- Heated dry on/off options.
- Super upper rack with 2 cup shelves.

ONLY \$379.95



David Stuva
Mgr. Member Services

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

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HOTPOINT