

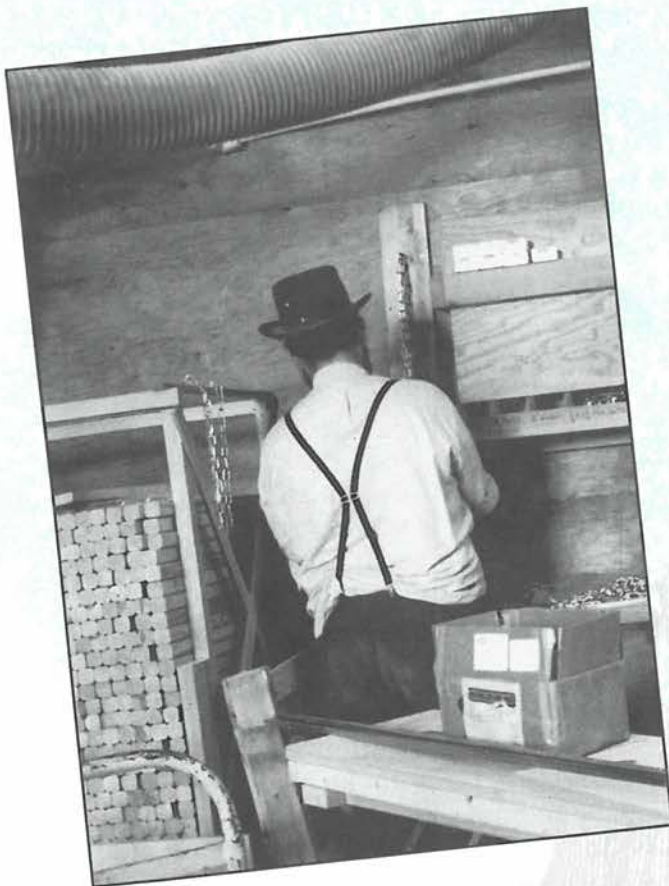
April, 1998
Vol. 47, Number 4

Adams Outlet

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

Tennessee Hobby Turns Into an Illinois Business

*Story on
page 4 & 5..*



Adams Outlet

Office hours:
Monday-Friday
7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

To report an outage:
1-800-232-4797
Local calls dial direct:
(217) 593-7701

MISSION STATEMENT

*Adams Electrical
Co-Operative is
committed to exceeding
the expectations of
those we serve!*

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Editor
David Stuva, CREC



by Douglas Aeilts
General Manager

Exceeding the Expectations of those We Serve!

At the Co-Operative's board meeting in February 1998 the



directors adopted a revised mission statement as follows:

"Adams Electrical Co-Operative is committed to exceeding the

expectations of those we serve!"

A mission statement describes the Co-Operative's perspective of its future business. It is more than a slogan or motto. Mission statements are used to articulate goals, aspirations, philosophy, behaviors, employee culture, strategies and the right things to do.

While developing this mission statement the directors and staff considered the following questions:

Purpose- Does it tell why the Co-Operative exists?

Philosophy- Does it reflect the values, beliefs, culture and philosophy of the Co-Operative?

Flexibility- Is it broad enough to allow flexibility but not so broad that it is vague or misunderstood?

Output- Are members (and potential non-member customers) needs emphasized rather than products or services that are offered?

Realistic- Is the mission achievable within the limits of time and resources available?

Clear- Is it understandable and brief enough to be easily remembered?

The electric utility industry is just beginning dramatic and fundamental changes that will affect electric consumer's, including electric cooperative mem-

bers. The economic forces of competition are driving state and federal elected officials to consider and adopt electric deregulation bills.

The Illinois Legislature passed and the governor approved, the "Electric Service Customer Choice and Rate Relief Law of 1997". This new Illinois law defines the parameters for customer choice dates, stranded costs recovery methods, rate reduction requirements and allows other businesses to sell electricity other than the traditional utilities.

Your Co-Operative is preparing for the new competitive environment. Part of this preparation included adopting this new mission statement. Our competitive advantage is our local connections to our members and community leaders. You, the members, have local control on the future of your Co-Operative through your locally elected board of directors at your annual meeting. Your directors define the direction, policies, goals and objectives of the Co-Operative. In this rapidly changing environment, the traditional expectations of the members are changing. Therefore, the directors must look to the future of the Co-Operative with a more strategic focus.

While the board of directors determines the future goals and objectives, the employees complete the detail assignments. Whether your expectations are exceeded is dependent on the commitment and dedication of the local employees you come in contact with on a daily basis. Your Co-Operative's employees will be one of our strongest competitive advantages! ■

Adams Electrical Co-Operative Joins JULIE, Inc.

On March 26, 1998 Adams Electrical Co-Operative became a member of JULIE, Inc. This means Adams Electrical Co-Operative will be notified when anyone calls the 800 number for JULIE, Inc., and asks local utility companies to locate their lines.

JULIE is a not-for-profit corporation that provides contractors/excavators and homeowners a single toll-free number to call for locating and marking underground facilities.

JULIE was formed by the owners and operators of underground facilities in Illinois as a means of reducing damage to those facilities. JULIE began operations August 1, 1974, in Will County and expanded its coverage to include all of Illinois as of December 1, 1980 (except for the city of Chicago).

JULIE is not a utility. JULIE

owns no facilities and does not locate underground facilities. JULIE is a message handling service which receives location requests from

persons excavating.

JULIE then sends these requests to JULIE member companies who have facilities in the area of excavation. Each utility is responsible

to mark its own facilities.

The service is provided by the

Illinois One-Call

System to excavators free of charge.

The cost of JULIE is paid in full by member companies.

The law requires everyone who excavates to contact the one-call system before digging.

Underground facilities can be damaged or ruptured by an assortment of digging instru-

ments; a small bend or dent can create problems months later. Loss of natural gas, telephone, water or electricity can leave communities without such vital services as police, fire and medical protection.

Accidentally striking an underground utility line can be extremely hazardous and extremely expensive! Underground lines are common in all areas, so don't take chances just because you're not aware of the underground utility services in

your area. Avoid the hazards and expense by calling JULIE at least two days before you begin any digging project.

You can reach JULIE anytime by calling 1-800-892-

0123. JULIE operators are standing by 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to process your locate request. ■



"The law requires everyone who excavates to contact the one-call system before digging."

1998 Adams Electrical Co-Operative Cash Rebates & Financing

- \$600.00 for a Geothermal System.
- \$400.00 for Electric Air-to-Air Heat Pump with Electric Back-up.
- \$200.00 for Electric Air-to-Air Heat Pump with Gas Back-up.
- \$125.00 for an Electric Water Heater in "New Construction".
- \$125.00 for Replacing a Gas Water Heater with Electric.
- \$ 75.00 for Replacing an Existing Electric Water Heater.
- 5% Financing Available.



1998 Soyland Power Cooperative Cash Rebates

(ENDS JUNE 30, 1998!)

- \$125.00 per ton for a Geothermal System.
- \$ 30.00 per kW for Any Other Electric Heating System.

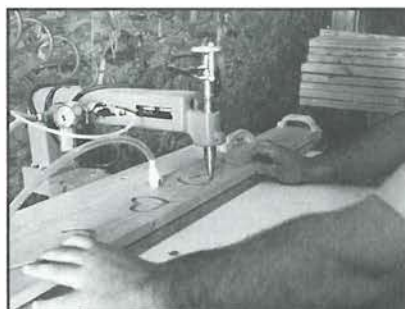
Tennessee Hobby Turns Into an Illinois Business

by David Stuva

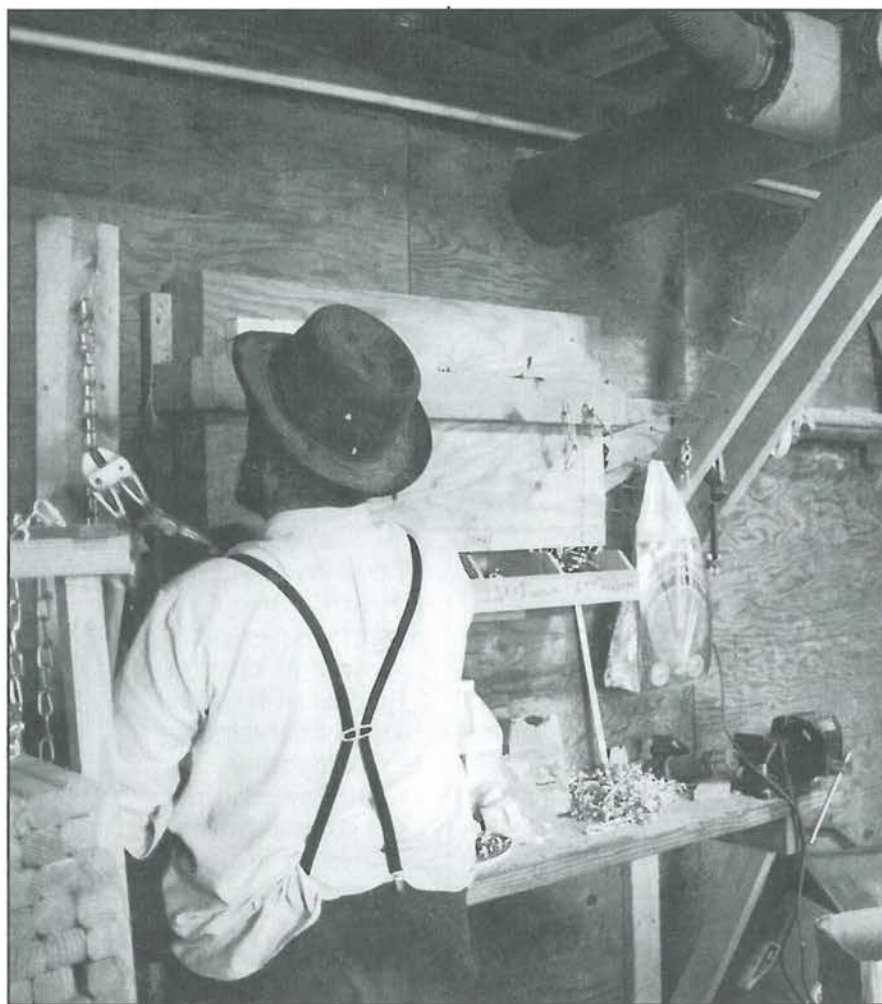
After leaving a dairy farm in Tennessee, Floyd Yoder started building gliders and gazebos in his spare time. It remained a part-time hobby until his family, along with several other Mennonite families, relocated to Brown County nearly six years ago.

"The first summer we were in Illinois, I decided to find a business in Quincy that would display my furniture," remembers Floyd. "I wasn't having much luck until I drove by the Farm & Home Supply store. I immediately knew that was the place I wanted!"

Floyd convinced the Quincy Farm & Home Supply to start displaying his products on a commission basis. The lawn furniture sold out almost as quickly as Floyd could haul it to Quincy! Farm & Home Supply soon asked Floyd to start supplying lawn furniture on a



A special router uses air to suction a pattern board to another board. The bottom board is cut exactly the same as the top pattern.



Quality lawn furniture at an affordable price is the goal of Yoder's Lawn Furniture.

wholesale basis to all six of their stores. What started as a part-time hobby for Floyd soon became a full-time business.

Another wholesale customer for Yoder's Lawn Furniture is Sara's Market in Curryville, Mo. This small roadside store and sandwich shop sells more lawn furniture than any single Farm & Home Supply store!

"It's amazing how many people drive to this little country store just to purchase furniture," adds Floyd. "Sara does a

great job selling our product."

Yoder's Lawn Furniture is located five miles south of Timewell and is in Adams Electrical Co-Operative's service territory. All of the furniture is made in Floyd's workshop. Some assembly work for porch swings and gliders is done at Elmer Yoder's place. Floyd has five employees who help in the business: Ben Miller, Merle Yoder, Elmer Yoder, Jonathon Troyer and Peter Schrock.

The Yoder's are quickly gaining a good reputation for quality furniture at a reasonable price. They specialize in gazebos, Adirondack benches, Adirondack chairs, swings, gliders, wishing wells, rose arbors and several styles of picnic tables. If you're interested



in purchasing a piece of lawn furniture from the Yoders, call (217) 773-3817 for a current price (Monday through Saturday).

All of the outdoor lawn furniture is made with No. 1 pressure treated yellow pine that is kiln dried after treatment. The lawn furniture is then sprayed with a water sealer that includes a cedar stain. Floyd is always improving the design of lawn furniture or looking for new styles.

"The first piece of lawn furniture I ever built was a glider," says Floyd. "I saw one on a farmer's porch and was fascinated. I used it as a pattern and I've been improving the design ever since."

In 1997, Yoder's Lawn Furniture sold about 1,200 pieces of handcrafted lawn furniture. Floyd's business has grown tremendously over the last six years, but he's not looking at any more expansions in the near future.

"If the business gets too big, I'm afraid we'll lose that personal touch," says Floyd. "I want a well-built product and a satisfied customer!" ■

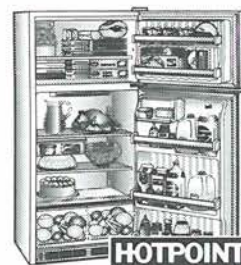


Another truckload of lawn furniture is ready to be shipped to Farm & Home Supply. Yoder's Lawn Furniture built about 1,200 pieces of furniture in 1997.

Just in time for Mom

20.6 Cu. Ft. Capacity No-Frost Refrigerator

- Adjustable shelves with snack pan.
- Gallon storage on door.
- 2 see-thru vegetable crispers.
- Equipped for optional icemaker.



CTX21EAZ
\$659.95

Extra Large Capacity

- 10-Cycle Heavy Duty Washer
- 4 wash/spin speed combinations.
- Optional extra rinse.
- 4 water levels.
- Built-in bleach and fabric softener dispensers.



VWXR4100T

\$479.95

Large Capacity 7-Cycle Heavy Duty Dryer

- Automatic Dry Control.
- 4 heat selections.
- Optional Press Guard.
- Interior dryer light.



NJLR473EV
\$359.95

Ribbon Top Range with Self-Cleaning Oven

- 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.



RB787GY
\$659.95

Built-In Dishwasher

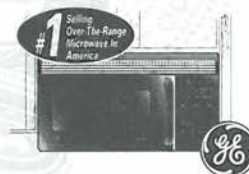
- 6 cycles including Pots & Pans and Water Saver cycles.
- 6 hour delay start option.
- Heated Dry and Hi-Temp Wash options.
- 3-level wash action.

HDA3420ZBB
\$379.95



Spacemaker XL Microwave Oven

- Large 1.3 cu. ft. oven cavity.



JVM1340BW
\$389.95



Candace Weeks
Member Service
Assistant

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



We bring good things to life.



Mike Olson
Service Technician

Put The Chill On Refrigeration Electric bills

The energy efficiency of modern refrigerators and freezers has improved significantly over the past 20 years, but they still are among the largest users in the home. (Refrigerators use about 16.4 percent and freezers use about 5.3 percent of household electricity.) With hot summer weather coming, this is a good time to review some simple ways to cut the energy costs of running your refrigerator and freezer.

For your refrigerator, place it

away from heat sources — ovens, dishwashers, and direct sunlight — and allow at least a 1-inch space around the outside to allow good air circulation.

Clean the condenser coils a minimum of once a year, check the tightness of the door seals, and defrost as often as necessary (if not a frost-free model). Keep the power-saving switch on the energy-saving setting and use an accurate thermometer to set the temperatures inside. In the fresh

food compartment, that's 36°F to 38°F; in the freezer, that's 0°F to 5°F.

If you have a separate freezer, keep it at the same temperature and try to keep it as full as possible. But turn it off if it's empty. Install it in an attached garage or basement; this will reduce energy consumption in cooler periods and lessen the home's cooling loads during warmer months. Be sure to clean the condenser coils, check the seals and defrost as often as necessary. Finally, mark items in the freezer for quick identification to reduce door-opening time. ■

Make this your summer to save money!

Controlled Air Conditioning (CAC)Rate: Only 6 cents a kWh!

A special submeter will be installed on your central air conditioner to measure the electricity used for cooling. During the months of June, July, August and September, all kWhs on the submeter will be billed at 6 cents a kWh. There will also be an additional monthly facility charge during the four summer months.

How the program works

A radio receiver will be installed on your house and connected to your central air

conditioner. When load conditions indicate a peak usage period is approaching, a signal will be sent by Adams Electrical Co-Operative to the radio receiver on your central air conditioning unit. This signal will cycle your central air conditioning unit for short time periods of 15 minutes off and 15 minutes on.

Your central air conditioner will be controlled only when there is a peak usage—usually on the hottest, most humid days of summer. In 1997, we interrupted only two days. The fan on your air conditioner will continue to run and the air will con-

tinue to circulate, so you probably will not even notice the central air conditioner is off.

Installation Costs

It costs \$75 to go on the CAC rate. This includes the radio-controlled switch, air conditioner submeter and labor. According to the National Electric Code, all central air conditioners must have an outside disconnect. If not present, Adams Electrical Co-Operative will install one for an additional \$25. Only central air conditioners can be controlled. **Sorry, no window air conditioners qualify.**

Please send me information on the special 6-cent rate for central air-conditioners.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ ZIP code _____

Home Ph. _____ Best time to call _____

Work Ph. _____ Account # _____

Date _____ Map Loc.# _____

Clip and Mail To: Adams Electrical Co-Operative, Member Service Department, P.O. Box 247, Camp Point, IL 62320, Phone: 1 (800) 232-4797

Cooperative Employees Receive Service Awards

Eight employees were honored for outstanding service to Adams Electrical Co-Operative during the 51st annual employee-director banquet, held April 4, 1998 at the Golden Windmill. ■

5 Years



Jim Krutmeier
Warehouseman

10 Years



Bill Freeman
*Material &
Vehicle Supervisor*

10 Years



Candace Weeks
*Member Service
Assistant*

15 Years



Charlie Rossiter
Line Foreman

15 Years



David Stuva
*Manager of
Member Services*

20 Years



Joan Mixer
Staff Secretary

30 Years



Lyle Forsythe
Forester

30 Years



Don Ward
Line Foreman