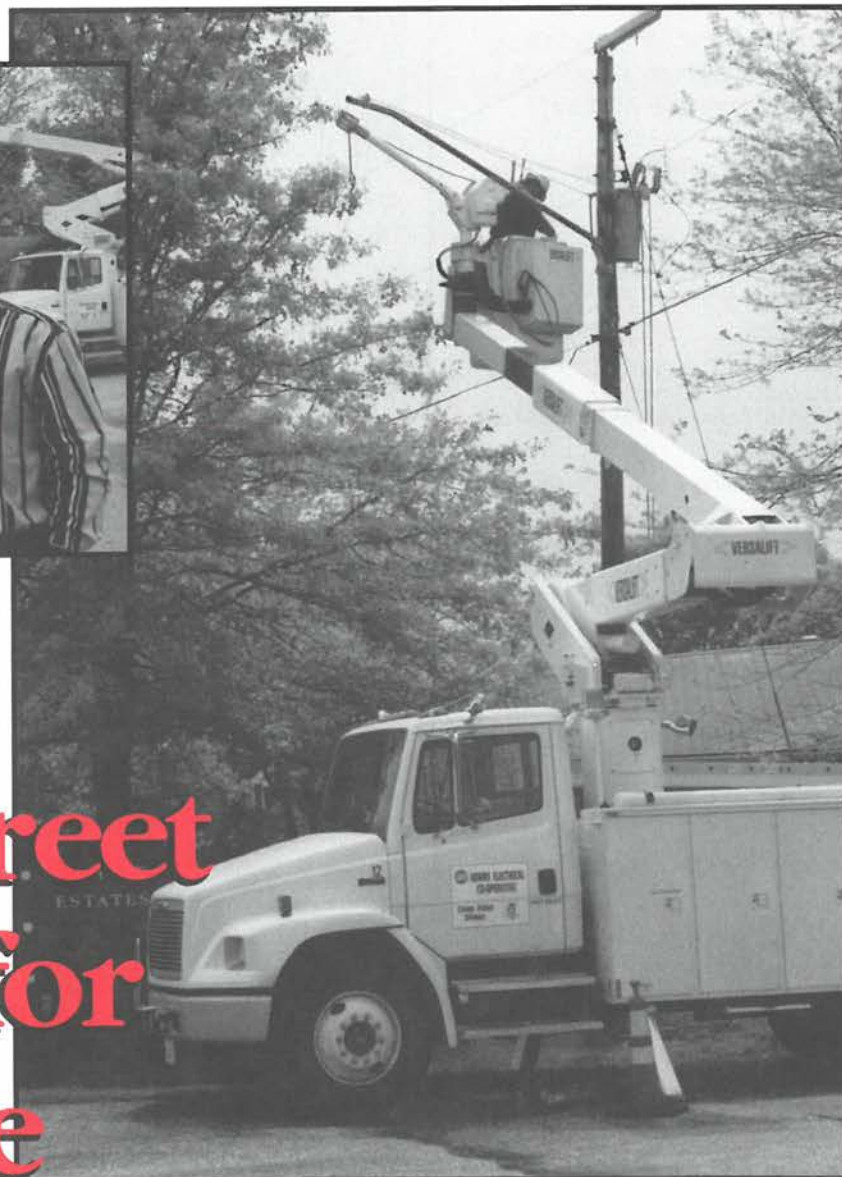


May, 1998
Vol. 47, Number 5

Adams Outlet

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



New Street Lights for Melrose Township

story on page 6...

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

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*"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

Taking Rural Concerns to the Nation's Capitol

The National Rural Electric
Cooperative Association has or-
ganized an annual legislative
conference for many years.



Thousands of
directors and
employees
from around
the country
meet in Wash-
ington, D.C.,
for three days
to meet with
our local con-

gressmen and senators. During
our meetings, we discuss issues
that are vitally important to elec-
tric cooperative members.

On May 4-6, 1998, directors
John Kestner, George Schneider
and I represented the coopera-
tive at the legislative conference.
We met with Congressmen John
Porter, Bobby Rush, Glenn
Poshard, Lane Evans and John
Shimkus as well as Senators
Richard Durbin and Carol
Moseley-Braun. They were all

receptive to the electric coop-
erative issues. We are indeed
fortunate to have a legislative
delegation that works together
for the betterment of Illinois, re-
gardless of the member's politi-
cal party affiliation.

There were four significant
issues that were discussed with
the congressmen and senators.

**Electric utility deregulation
(retail wheeling):** The Illinois
State Legislature last year ap-
proved the "Electric Service
Customer Choice and Rate Re-
lief Law of 1997." There were
five pages in this 265-page law
that dealt with electric coopera-
tives and municipal utilities.
Specifically, this state law re-
tains local control for member-
owned and controlled utilities.
There will eventually be federal
legislation approved by Con-
gress to deal with interstate is-
sues such as transmission
access, reliability and regula-

(Continued on page 3)



General Manager Douglas H. Aeilts explains to Rep. John Shimkus
how Illinois deregulation legislation will affect rural electric
cooperative members.

(Continued from page 2)

tion. Our concerns were that Illinois (and all other states that have already approved electric utility deregulation) should be exempt from federal mandates that conflict with our existing state law. Federal legislation should not change Illinois customer choice deadlines, stranded cost recovery methods or electric service territory issues.

Rural Utility Service (RUS) financing: RUS is typically criticized for providing below-market interest rate financing. All electric utilities in the United States receive federal assistance or subsidies. RUS financing amounts to a federal subsidy of \$23 per customer of an electric cooperative in 1996 with a customer density of six members per mile. Investor-owned utilities (such as AmerenCIPS) average 35 customers per mile and a federal subsidy of \$53 per cus-

tomers.

Federal disaster assistance: Electric cooperatives have always been eligible for federal assistance from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) whenever there has been a federal disaster declared. FEMA has been attempting to reduce the number of eligible entities that can participate in their programs by developing regulations that eliminate electric cooperatives. Adams Electrical Co-Operative received \$264,000 from FEMA after the Great Flood of 1993, to help repair damage to our electric distribution system.

Copyright royalty fees for satellite dish subscribers: This probably doesn't sound like an electric cooperative issue, but it affects a lot of electric cooperative members. The Library of Congress imposed steep increases in copyright fees for the retransmission of super station

and broadcast network signals into satellite television homes. This decision means that copyright fees for satellite carriers would soar to ten times the amount cable operators pay for network signals and almost three times more for super station signals. This decision is especially unfair in rural areas where consumers do not have access to cable television and rely heavily on satellite service.

Even though Adams Electrical Co-Operative is a not-for-profit corporation, we are affected by numerous federal and state governmental laws, rules and regulations as illustrated in these four issues. Political lobbying is a required part of every business. Electric cooperatives work to protect our not-for-profit rights and also the rights of member-owners that live in the rural areas of our electric service territory. ■

Surveys are in the Mail

In June, all Adams Electrical Co-Operative members will receive a survey (1998 Member Study). The results of this survey will help the Co-Operative identify new ways we can serve the membership and help us make load forecasts as we prepare to meet future electrical demands.

In this rapidly changing world, it is increasingly important that the cooperative know the most common ways you use electric energy and your opinion of our service. We request your cooperation in completing the survey.

The Board of Directors has also approved our participation in a member attitude survey (Energy and Rural Living in Illinois) conducted by the University of Illinois and the Association of Illinois Cooperatives. Only a small percentage of Adams Electrical Co-Operative members will actually receive this survey.

This is the fourth statewide survey conducted by the AIEC for Adams Electrical Co-Operative. The last survey was completed in 1995.

Please call the Co-operative at (800) 232-4797 if you receive a survey and have a question. ■



Nominating Committee Will Meet June 8th

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 9, 1998. The committee will meet in the Co-Operative office at the east edge of Camp Point on Route 24 at 7:30 p.m. on June 8, 1998. Within three working days following completion of the nominating process, a list of nominees will be posted in the lobby of the Co-Operative 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 by the nominating committee.

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 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 1998

District #1 - Consisting of Littleton, Oakland, Buena Vista, Woodstock, Brown-ing, Rushville, Bainbridge, Hickory and Frederick townships of Schuyler County.

District #2 - Consisting of Keene, Northeast and Houston townships of Adams County.

District #3 - Consisting of Gilmer, Columbus, Burton and Liberty townships of Adams County.

At the 1997 annual meeting, the following members were elected to serve on the 1998 nominating committee:

District #1

Marvin Phillips
RR 1 Box 10
Rushville IL

Gene Acheson
RR 3 Box 45
Rushville IL

District #2

Brent Flesner
RR 1 Box 72
La Prairie IL

Dwaine Marlow
RR 1 Box 94
Golden IL

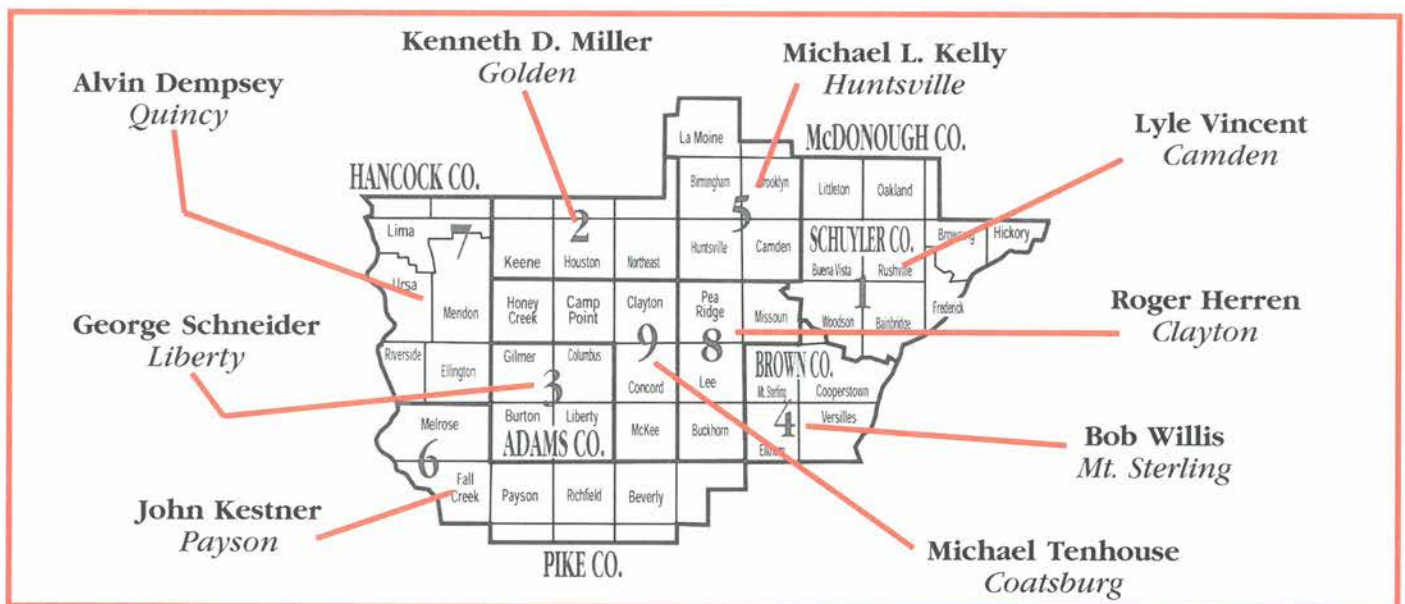
District #3

David Ellwood
RR 3 Box 235
Liberty IL

Anthony Welsh
RR 3 Box 213-1A
Liberty IL

Member at Large

Danny Hanning
RR 1 Box 61
Huntsville IL

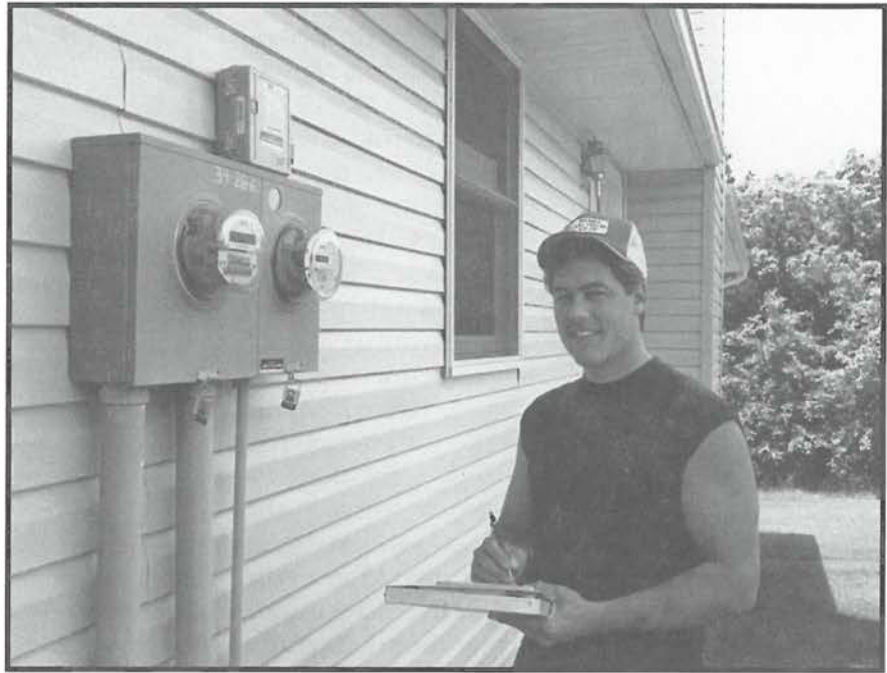


All Meters Are Routinely Inspected

Adams Electrical Co-Operative maintains a regular schedule of testing to help keep each member's meter clean and in good working order. If a member requests a meter test, a \$35 deposit will be charged to help cover the cost of the test. If a member's meter is found to be outside the tolerance level, the deposit will be returned and an adjustment will be made to the member's account.

Many members believe their meter is recording too much usage when they have a high electric bill. This is like blaming the cash register at the grocery store for a high grocery bill or the meter on a gasoline pump for poor gas mileage.

Your meter is a highly calibrated and accurate device. In fact, few commodities are as accurately measured as electricity. In routine and requested meter tests conducted by Adams Electrical Co-Operative, it is rare to find a meter that is outside the established tolerance level. The majority of meters that are outside of the operating standards run slow.



Ray Eickelschulte, part-time meter reader, checks individual meters to make sure they coincide with the cooperative's records. He is a teacher at Central High School and lives in Hook n' Quarter subdivision. Ray and his wife, Gina, have two children Denton and Dolan.

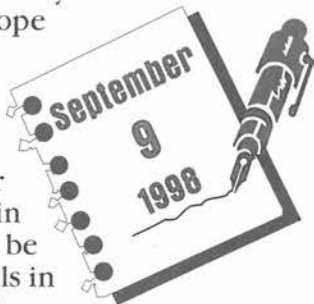
In other words, the meter isn't recording enough usage. That's because it is like any other electric motor - it gets slower with time as dirt, moisture and insects take their toll.

Due to the proven accuracy of the meters, the Co-Operative suggests that members look at their usage before they request a meter test. ■

Annual Meeting

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 Co-Operative. 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 9, 1998, at Bailey Park in Camp Point. We will be announcing more details in the coming months. ■



Parade of Homes

Sunday, May 31, 1998
10:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.

More information will
be available in the
Quincy Herald-Whig
Saturday, May 30th

Sponsored By:
**Home Builders
Association of Quincy**

New Street Lights for Melrose Township



Adams Electrical Co-Operative and Melrose Township are working together to improve the quality of life for local residents east of Quincy. Steve Williams, Melrose Township Road Commissioner, requested assistance from the Co-Operative in identifying the best light-

ing options for six busy intersections. After evaluating the situation, the Co-Operative determined that 250-watt (high-pressure sodium) fixtures, mounted on 12-foot arms, would provide maximum lighting effectiveness.

The Co-Operative installed five security lights on State Street intersections: Rim Road, East State Estates, Vogel's Lane, 57th Street and 59th Street. Another security light was installed at the intersection of 48th Street and Skyline Drive. Melrose Township is paying the monthly rental fees as a community benefit. Steve Williams calls the initiative a "neighborhood enhancement program".

"The new security lights will make State Street a much safer place. Some people would start slowing down up to 1/2 mile before their turn, because they couldn't see the subdivision entrance signs in the dark," says Williams. "The security lights will definitely improve the traffic flow on State Street, especially at night."

Williams was elected Road Commissioner on April 1, 1997, and is responsible for 90 miles of roads in Melrose Township. Two full-time and two part-time employees assist him.

For more information on the "Neighborhood Enhancement Program" or road construction projects in Melrose Township, call Steve Williams at (217) 224-5245. ■



Lineman Charlie Rossiter installs a new 250-watt security light at the intersection of State Street and East Lake Estates Subdivision.



Apprentice Lineman, Kevin Knight and Jim Thompson, review the electric specifications and line clearances for street lighting.

Cover photo: Manager of Engineering and Operations Jim Thompson and Melrose Township Road Commissioner Steve Williams. Adams Electrical Co-Operative is committed to working with local townships or municipalities on safety related issues.

Catch some great deals at the

.....

Inventory Clearance Sale

.....



VBXR2070(AD) \$ 369.95
(4 in stock)
WLW3800 (AD) \$399.95
(1 in stock)

RB533 (AD) - *manual clean* \$325.95
(1 in stock)
RB534 (WH) - *manual clean* \$349.95
(2 in stock)
RB534 (AD) - *manual clean* \$359.95
(2 in stock)
RB767 (WH) - *self cleaning* \$499.95
(1 in stock)
RS742 (AD) - *slide in* \$538.95
(1 in stock)

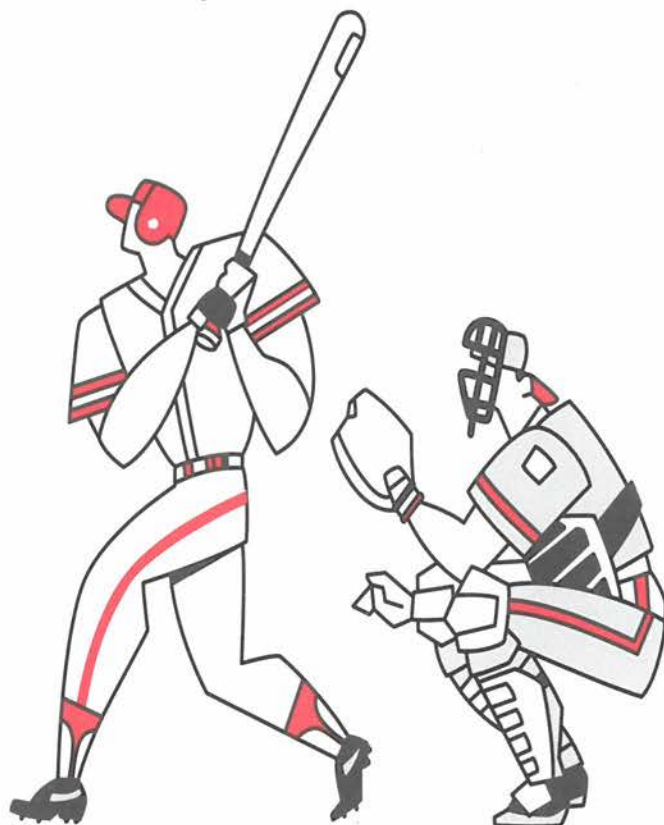
RU38 (BC) - *coil burners* \$189.95
(1 in stock)
JP332 (BG) - *solid disk burners* \$240.51
(1 in stock)

JVM230 (BB) \$359.95
(4 in stock)
JVM250 \$399.95
(2 in stock)

HDA467 (AD) \$199.95
(1 in stock)
HDA467 (WH) \$239.95
(1 in stock)
HDA300 (BB) \$289.95
(2 in stock)

FH5 (WH) \$289.95
(4 in stock)

Hotpoint Washer/Dryer Pair (AD) . \$300.00
G.E. Upright Freezer \$295.00
(new compressor)



Holst & Sullivan are Winners of Washington, D.C. Tour

The winners of Adams Electrical Co-Operative's 39th Annual *"Youth to Washington"* contest are Sarah Holst of Southeastern High School and Rose Sullivan from Rushville High School. Sarah is the daughter of Mark and Kathy Holst, Augusta and Rose is the daughter of Timothy and Patricia Sullivan, Rushville.

Alternates are Landon Morrison of Southeastern High School and Charlotte McLean of Central High School. Landon is the son of George and Sharon Youell Morrison, Bowen and Charlotte is the daughter of Lyndon and Carol McLean, Golden. 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 a 1,000 - 1,200 word essay. A panel of three judges graded each essay to de-



From left: Landon Morrison, Southeastern High School; Charlotte McLean, Central High School; Rose Sullivan, Rushville High School and Sarah Holst, Southeastern High School. Holst and Sullivan were the winners in Adams Electrical Co-Operative's 39th annual *"Youth to Washington"* contest.

termine the two winners and two alternates.

Sarah and Rose will assemble with more than 75 other high school students representing Illinois electric cooperatives on

Friday, June 12th, 1998 to travel aboard a chartered bus to Washington, D.C.

They will be accompanied by several chaperones and return to Springfield on June 19th, 1998.

During their expense-paid week in Washington, D.C., Sarah

and Rose will join approximately 1,000 other students from 30 states for *"Rural Electric Youth Week"*, sponsored by the National Rural Electric Co-operative Association.

Activities include touring the U.S. Capitol, Library of Congress, Arlington National Cemetery, Smithsonian Institute, 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. ■

