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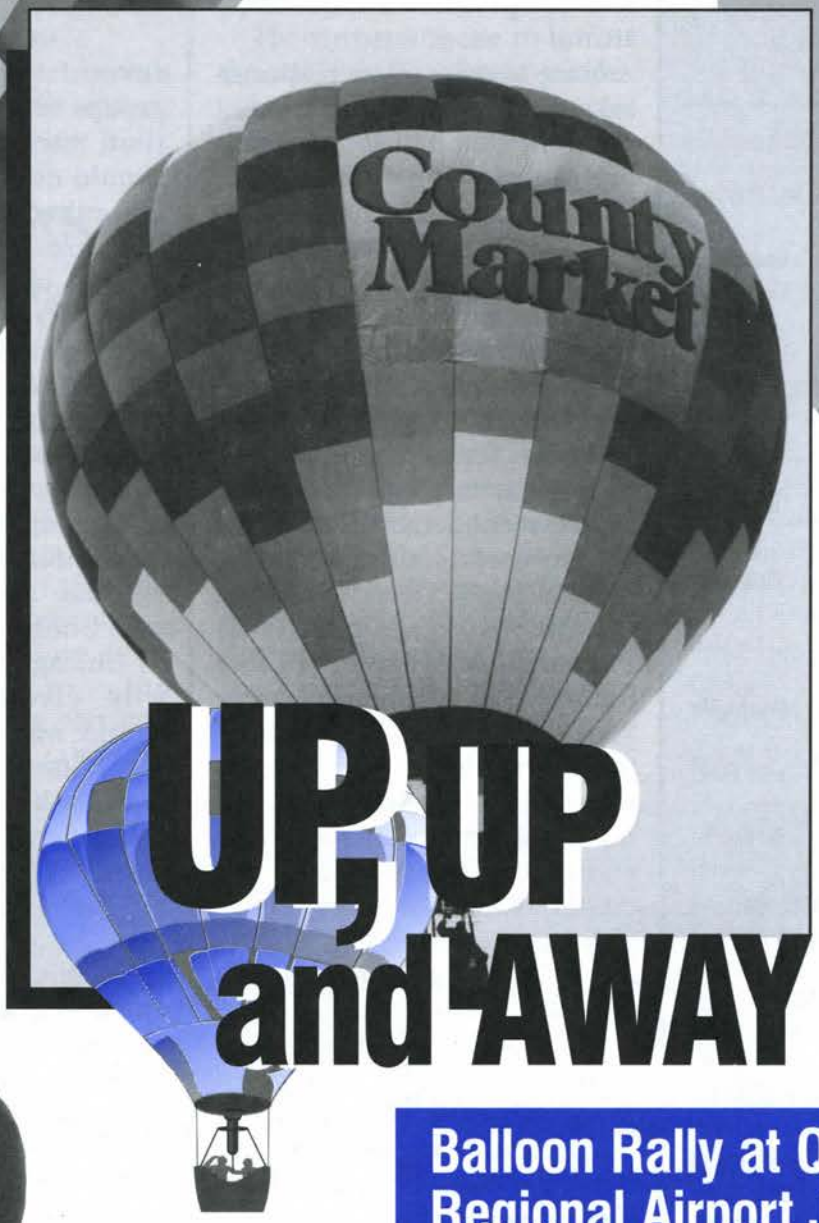
Adams Outlet

News for Members Of Adams Electric Cooperative, Camp Point, Illinois



UP, UP and AWAY

Balloon Rally at Quincy Regional Airport June 16-18

See page 4 for more details

Adams Outlet

www.adamselectriccoop.com

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 Electric Cooperative is committed to exceeding the expectations of those we serve!"

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Editor
Candace Weeks

by Douglas Aeilts
General Manager

NRECA Legislative Conference

During May 2000, I joined 3,000 other electric cooperative representatives from across the United States, in Washington D.C. to attend the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Legislative Conference. NRECA is the electric cooperative's national association. Among several other responsibilities, they have a government relations staff that monitors every Congressional and Senate bill and other regulatory proposals that could impact electric cooperatives.

There were approximately 70 representatives from Illinois electric cooperatives that called on every Illinois Congressman and both Senators. The Illinois group was very fortunate to be able to meet personally with every downstate Congressman, many Chicago and suburban Congressmen and Senator Durbin. When we were not able to meet with a Congressman or Senator personally, the staff familiar with utility and rural issues met with us. In general, the Illinois electric cooperative representatives were warmly received in all of our meetings.

A large group of 45 Illinois electric cooperative representatives met with Congressman John Shimkus. Congressman Shimkus has been a strong supporter of issues that affect Illinois electric cooperatives and our rural electric service areas. The Congressman is a member of the Power and Energy Subcommittee of the House Commerce Committee. This particular Subcommittee and Committee is actively debating Federal Electric Utility Deregulation legislation. It is extremely important that a "grandfather" provision be included in any federal legislation that does not pre-empt our Illinois deregulation law that was approved in 1997. There are also several "Special Interest" groups in Washington lobbying that electric cooperatives should not be able to diversify into other products or services that are requested and approved by our members and directors, respectfully. Congressman Shimkus has supported the Illinois electric cooperative position on every issue raised. We are very fortunate to have such a good friend in Washington representing our rural interest.

I also attended a meeting with Congressman Bobby Rush of Chicago. You may wonder why electric cooperatives would want to contact a Chicago Congressman. Congressman Rush is also on the House Commerce Committee and has also been a strong supporter of the Illinois electric cooperative position on subjects that involve this committee. There is an effort underway to organize new electric cooperatives in the Chicago area. Congressman Rush has been very supportive of these efforts.

This trip to Washington D.C. was a very important opportunity to meet face to face with our Illinois Congressional Delegation. There is also a huge

impact of having 3,000 electric cooperative representatives in the nation's capital for three (3) days visiting virtually every Congressional and Senator's office.

Illinois is fortunate to have a Congressional Delegation and two (2) Senators that work cooperatively together (regardless of party affiliation) for the benefit of Illinois. It is important that electric cooperatives stay active in the legislative process and protect the interest of our members.

Reduce your central air conditioning costs!

If you want to keep your house cool this summer and not spend a lot of money, Adams Electric Cooperative has a program for you! Our Controlled Air Conditioning (CAC) rate is only six cents a kWh. That's almost a 50 percent savings compared to our "base rate"!

A separate submeter records the kWh's used by the central air conditioner. During June, July, August and September, all cooling usage on the submeter is billed at six cents per kWh. Adams Electric Cooperative installs a radio control switch that cycles the central air conditioner during the peak demand periods.

There is a $75 fee to go on the CAC rate. The fee covers the submeter, meter base, radio-controlled switch and labor to install the equipment. The national electric code requires an outside disconnect on all central air conditioners. The Cooperative charges $25 to install a disconnect if one is not present.

Only central air conditioners qualify for the CAC rate. Room air conditioners do NOT qualify. For more information on the CAC rate, call Adams Electric Cooperative at 1-800-232-4797.

Coming Soon...

Telephone long distance service from Adams Electric Cooperative

Within 60 days, Adams Electric Cooperative will offer competitively priced long distance services throughout the Cooperative's service area. The services will include 1+ direct dialed domestic calling, calling cards, prepaid phone cards and personal toll free numbers.

"Long distance service is an ideal addition to the Cooperative's existing services. We seek to provide competitively priced services that you can buy with peace of mind from someone local," states Doug Aeilts, general manager. "There is a lot of confusion in the long distance programs, and our membership has shown interest in us offering a long distance program. We feel we can provide the public a competitive option for long distance service while utilizing our existing excellent customer service."

Adams Electric Cooperative is provisioning the new services through a subsidiary of Adams Telephone Co-Operative. "By working with Adams Telephone Co-Operative, Adams Electric Cooperative enters the long distance industry with a quality product that adds tremendous value to our members," adds Aeilts.

Watch the Adams Outlet for more details.

Just "charge it" at AEC

Adams Electric Cooperative understands your need for billing convenience and financial flexibility. Adams Electric Cooperative accepts Visa, MasterCard, Discover and the Co-op Power Plus Rebate Card for both retail purchases and electric bill payments.

More good news:

You can arrange to have your monthly electric payment billed automatically each month to your credit card. Call Adams Electric Cooperative at 1-800-232-4797 to request more information.

Convenience • Peace of Mind • Financial Flexibility • Fewer Checks to Write

DISCOVER NOVUS MasterCard VISA

UP, UP and AWAY

"Once you have flown you will walk the earth with your eyes turned skyward, for there you have been, and there you long to return."
- Leonardo da Vinci

This quote from Leonardo da Vinci speaks volumes for Ray, Penny, Samantha and Colin Wilson of Robins Glen Subdivision in Quincy. Ray and Penny took their first balloon flight 14 years ago and have been involved in ballooning one way or another ever since. Ray, a commercial LTA pilot, has been flying balloons since 1995.

There are three different levels of license available: student, private and commercial. With a commercial license you are licensed to give flying lessons as well as take passengers.

The Wilsons have turned their hobby into a side business helping others to see the beauty in ballooning.

"For a one passenger flight the cost is $150, for a two passenger flight the charge is $275," says Penny Wilson, "and we do require a $50 deposit." "We then put people's names on a list and we coordinate fly times with them as the weather permits."

"The only times we can fly are two hours after sunrise and two hours before sunset," comments Ray. "The reason for this is the changing atmosphere pressures and temperatures. When we have a passenger, we have to have winds that are 10 miles per hour or less before we can go up."

"We have done everything from taking a bride and groom up on their wedding day to giving several elderly people (in their 80's) a ride for their birthday!" exclaims Penny.

Penny, Samantha, Colin and several friends crew for Ray and the Sky Ranger. The Sky Ranger is seven stories tall, with one propane burner and a wicker basket that is 42 inches wide by 50 inches tall.

The Wilson's Lindstrand balloon, or envelope, as it is called, is made of nylon with a UV protectant and was made in Hanover, Illinois. Envelopes are made all over the United States but the wicker baskets are handmade in London. A good basketmaker will make only seven baskets per year. The envelopes and baskets come in all different shapes and sizes.

"We travel all over the U.S. in our spare time going to different ballooning events," says Ray. "We've met many interesting people through our travels. Recently we met Kix Brooks of Brooks & Dunn at an event. It was the first time they were out with their balloon, High Plains Drifter. You just never know who you'll meet!" laughs Penny.

Ray has competed with 150 – 175 others in the U.S. Nationals. For the last two years he has placed 7th in the competition. The top three go on to the World Championships. "At the U.S. Nationals you go up twice a day for ten days and in all types of weather conditions with winds varying from 15 miles an hour or less."

Ray uses a Global Positioning System (GPS) to help him fly the balloon. Penny follows in her Explorer and keeps in contact with Ray by radio. "We always get landowner permission to land," says Penny. "Ninety percent of the time there's never any problem! People love to come out and watch!"

The Wilsons also take the Sky Ranger around to the local schools and do programs for the students as well as to other events in the community.

June 16, 17 and 18 will be the first County Market Balloon Rally at the Quincy Regional

Airport, Baldwin Field. Ray, an employee of County Market, says everyone has been extremely supportive and generous in helping organize this event.

"Everyone from Mayor Schultz to Mark Hanna, airport manager, haven't even batted an eye – just asked how they could help and what we needed," says Ray.

"This event is going to be very family oriented. We wanted to have an event that the entire family can come out and enjoy," adds Penny.

"Right now we have 20 balloons coming in. Tony the Tiger, The Flying Purple People Eater and Humpty Dumpty are just a few of the balloons."

The event has 400 volunteers right now, but could use more help. Anyone interested in helping with the event or is interested in finding out more about the Wilson's hobby, can call Penny Wilson at (217) 228-8801.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FOR THE

COUNTY MARKET BALLOON RALLY

FRIDAY, JUNE 16

Airport Grounds Open at 4:00 p.m.
Night Rider (Country Band) 5:30 – 11:00 p.m.
Balloon Flight From Airport 6:00 p.m.
Balloon Night Glow at Airport 8:30 p.m.
Quincy Fire Department Kid Safe House

(Field closes at 11:00 p.m.)

SATURDAY, JUNE 17

Balloon Flight over Quincy 6:00 a.m.
Airport Grounds Open at 11:00 a.m.
Children's Bouncy Equipment 12:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Night Rider (Country Band) 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Red Spoke 5 (Rock Band) 5:30 – 11:00 p.m.
Balloon Flight from Airport 6:00 p.m.
Balloon Night Glow at Airport 8:30 p.m.

***Displays* (open Friday from 4:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m. and Saturday from 11:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m.)**

Bielstien Campers
Aqua Tech Boats
Selby Implement Tractors
Corvette Club Car Show
Red Gold V.W. Bug Cars
Outdoor Power
Johnsonville Brat Grill
Fisher Truck
STP NASCAR

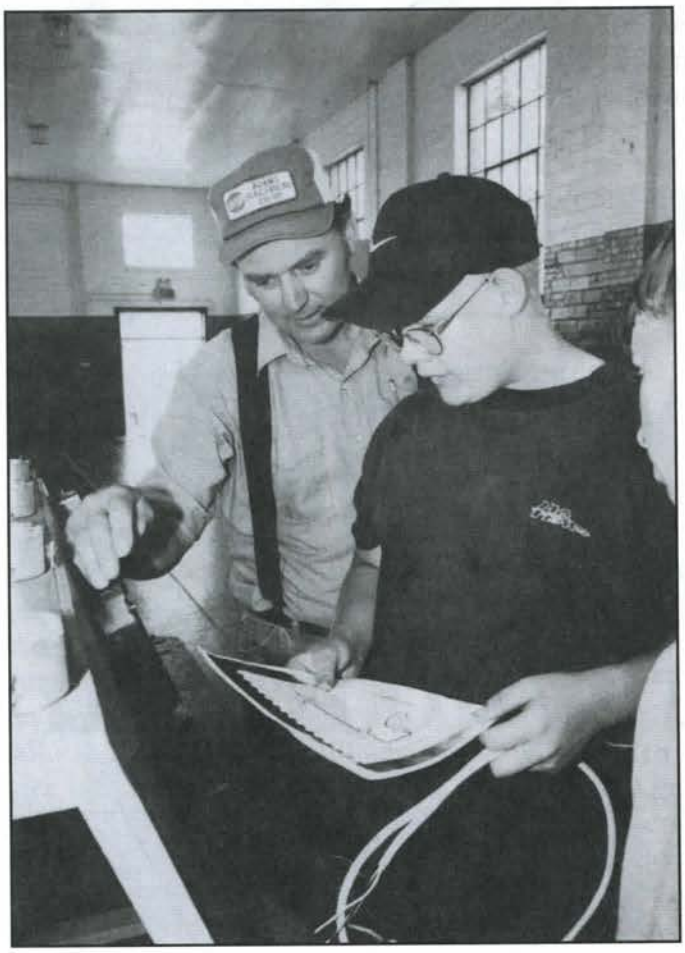
(Field closes at 11:00 p.m.)

SUNDAY, JUNE 18

Balloon Flight over Quincy 6:00 a.m.

***All Balloon Flights and Night Glows are subject to weather conditions.**

4-H Electricity School scheduled for July 10, 2000



The Multi-County 4-H Electricity School will be July 10, 2000 and will take place at Bailey Park in Camp Point.

The school is open to all girls and boys or adult leaders who want to participate. For more information, contact the extension services of Adams, Brown, Schuyler or Pike counties.

Instructors assist young people with projects while emphasizing electrical safety.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Terry Plunk has been with Adams Electric Cooperative for three years as Forestry Assistant. As Forestry Assistant, Terry helps maintain cooperative right-of-ways and trims and cuts trees; keeping electric lines clear for safe and reliable service.

Plunk, a Rushville native, graduated from Rushville High School in 1989. Terry's parents, Don and Barb Plunk live in Rushville and are the owners of The Greenhouse, which specializes in vegetable plants and flowers.

In the spring and summer Terry can be found playing softball or watching NASCAR and following his favorite baseball teams. The fall and winter months often find Terry hunting, bowling or watching football. It's rumored that Terry is an avid fan of the Dallas Cowboys! Terry is also active in his local Moose Lodge.

When asked what his favorite thing about his job was, Terry replied that he enjoyed working outdoors and working with his fellow co-workers.

TENT SALE

June 17th

Adams Electric Cooperative
Highway 24 East, Camp Point, IL
Saturday, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

New Hotpoint Ranges
SOLD
RB755 (WH) $379

New GE Profile Dryers
DPSQ475 (WH)	$399
DPSQ475 (AD)	$399
DPSQ495 (WH)	$409
DPSQ495 (WH)-gas	$459

New GE Profile Washer
WPSQ3090 (AD)	$389

New Hotpoint Washers
VBXR1060 (AD)	$329
VWXR4100 (AD)	$369

New Hotpoint Dishwasher
HDA3420 (BB)	$349

New GE Dishwasher
GSD4920 (BB)	$509
GSD1930 (WW)	$559

New GE Freezer
Dented	$299

Used Appliances
Washers starting at	$195
Dryers starting at	$125
Washer/Dryer Pair	$350
Portable Dishwashers	$125
Electric Range	$185
Gas Range	SOLD
Chest Freezer	$250

All used appliances come with a 30-day warranty.

GREAT savings on new Hotpoint and GE appliances and a large selection of used appliances.

From the kitchen of Adams Electric Cooperative

Triple Layer Party Pie

1 purchased 9" chocolate pie crust
1 (4 serving) pkg. sugar free instant butterscotch pudding mix
1 1/3 cups nonfat dry milk powder
2 1/2 cups water
1 (4 serving) pkg. sugar free instant chocolate pudding mix
1/2 cup reduced calorie whipped topping (8 calories per tablespoon)
2 tablespoons chopped pecans
1 tablespoon mini chocolate chips

In medium bowl, combine butterscotch pudding mix, 2/3 cup nonfat dry milk powder and 1 1/4 cups water. Mix well, using a wire whisk. Pour into chocolate crumb piecrust. In medium bowl, combine chocolate pudding mix, remaining 2/3 cup nonfat dry milk powder and remaining 1 1/4 cups water. Mix well, using a wire whisk. Pour over butterscotch layer. Chill until set. Before serving, evenly spread 1/2 cup reduced calorie whipped topping over chocolate layer. Sprinkle pecans and mini chocolate chips evenly over top. Chill until ready to serve. Serves eight (8). Each serving equals: HE: 1/2 Br, 1/2 SM, 1/4 Fa, 1 Sl, 8 OC; 217 calories, 7 gr Fa, 6 gr Pr, 32 gr Ca, 487 mg So; Diabetic: 2 Sl, 1 Fa, 1/2 SM

This recipe is from: Best of Healthy Exchanges Food Newsletter '92 Cookbook by JoAnna Lund.

Energy efficiency in your kitchen

Electricity is a great source of energy for cooking. By using electricity wisely, you can get the most for your money in the kitchen. Here are a few tips to help you save energy in the kitchen:

When using your oven –

Baking defrosted food uses one-third less energy than starting with frozen food.

Your electric oven retains more heat and thus uses less energy overall than your range top, so use the oven whenever possible.

Use a timer. Opening the oven door lets up to 20 percent of the heat escape.

You can lower the oven temperature by up to 25 degrees when using ceramic, glass or stainless steel cooking pans. These pans conduct and retain heat better than other types of cooking pans.

When using your refrigerator –

Make sure your refrigerator doors seal airtight. An easy way to test a seal is to close the door on a dollar bill so it is half in and half out of the refrigerator. If you can pull the bill out easily, the latch may need adjustment or the seal may need replacing.

Remember to regularly defrost manual-defrost refrigerators and freezers. Never allow frost to build up more than a quarter inch.

Helpful household hints

★ Use air-freshener to clean mirrors: It does a good job and leaves a lovely smell to the shine.

★ If you move into a new home where the previous owners were smokers, putting mint-flavored coffee beans in open dishes will remove the smoke odor from closets.

★ If an egg breaks on the floor, sprinkle it generously with salt, let dry, and you will then be able to just sweep it up.

★ To remove pet hair from furniture easily, wear a latex glove (the kind worn by doctors) and hair will stick to it. Rinse glove off, dry, and use again and again.

★ To clean the glass door on the inside of your oven, sprinkle some baking soda on a wet rag; wipe down glass and then rinse. The baking soda will remove greasy stains.

Look what you can do with Alka-Seltzer:

★ To remove a stain from the bottom of a glass vase or cruet, fill with water and drop in two Alka-Seltzer tablets.

★ Clean a thermos bottle. Fill the bottle with water, drop in four Alka-Seltzer tablets, and let soak for an hour or longer if necessary.

★ Clear the sink drain by dropping three Alka-Seltzer tablets down the drain followed by a cup of Heinz white vinegar. Wait a few minutes, and then run the hot water.