

July 2002
Vol. 51, Number 7

Adams Outlet

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

A Community
Helps Save
The Princess



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Special Coupon
on page 11

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Editor
Laura Dotson



Community Development Takes Many Partners

by Douglas Aeilts,
General Manager



Adams Electric Cooperative works with local Economic and Community Development officials to enhance a community's quality of life. This month's feature story highlights Rushville's Princess Theater. This is certainly a quality of life subject that Rushville can be very proud of and that the Cooperative commends Rushville area officials for working to attain.

The Cooperative has a long history of working in and around Rushville and Schuyler County with various organizations and projects. The Cooperative has been a member of the Rushville Area Chamber of Commerce and the Schuyler County Economic Development Corporation (SCEDC) for many years. Another important economic development organization the Cooperative has been very active with is the River Valley Community Development Corporation (RVCDC). The RVCDC is a consortium of community banks from Brown, Cass and Schuyler counties that make participating loans to businesses with risk levels higher than a bank can manage individually.

The Cooperative provides electric service to nearly all of Schuyler County except for the towns of Rushville, Browning and Frederick. The Cooperative is the electric service provider to the new Illinois Youth Center - Rushville being developed by the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC). The Schuyler County Farm property was split with service provided by both AmerenCIPS and the Cooperative. The Cooperative negotiated with AmerenCIPS and obtained Illinois Commerce Commission approval to not only provide electric service to the IDOC project but to all of the

Schuyler County Farm property. The Cooperative has been working with the City of Rushville, Schuyler County Board, SCEDC and RVCDC to develop the County

Farm property into a Business/Industrial Park. Another important partner for this project has been the Cooperative's power suppliers, Soyland Power Cooperative and Continental Cooperative Services.

Throughout Schuyler County, the Cooperative is proud to also be the power supplier to the Villages of Camden and Huntsville, Schuyler-Rush Lake Area, Two Rivers FS Grain Elevator at Camden and Bulk

Fuel Plant, L & N Industries at Ray, Rushville's new Water Treatment Plant and Clayton-Camp Point Water Commission's new water well in southern Schuyler County, just to name a few.

Economic and Community Development is a

long-term process that takes many years to see results. It also takes many partners to be successful. Just review this article for all the organizations that I have listed in Schuyler County alone and I haven't mentioned all of them.

Hiring an economic development professional will not guarantee success if the community is not supportive with its time, talent and financial support. It must be a coordinated group effort! The Cooperative welcomes Carol Montague as the new Director of SCEDC. Adams Electric Cooperative applauds Rushville and Schuyler County for their past successes and accomplishments and pledges to be a valued partner in the future.

"Hiring an economic development professional will not guarantee success if the community is not supportive with its time, talent and financial support."

Adams Electric Cooperative Nominating Committee Report

Pursuant to the Cooperative's Bylaws, the Nominating Committee met at the office of Adams Electric Cooperative in Camp Point, Illinois on Monday, June 10, 2002 at 7:30 p.m. to nominate candidates for election of directors of Adams Electric Cooperative.

The following Nominating Committee Members were present: Mary Petri and Chester "Ronnie" Weronko, representing District 4; Kevin Shelts and Jennifer Billingsley, representing District 5; Robert Perry and Dan Ellwood, representing District 6; and Wilfred Dittmer, member-at-large.

Douglas Aeilts, General Manager, was present at the opening of the meeting and presented each Committee Member a copy of the Bylaws and called their attention to the qualifications of directors and the nominating procedure. At the consent of the Committee Members, Manager Aeilts served as Chairman Pro Tem until a Chairman had been elected.

Manager Aeilts opened the floor to nominations for Committee Chairman. Robert Perry nominated Wilfred Dittmer. Kevin Shelts made a motion to close nominations and to cast a unanimous ballot to elect Wilfred Dittmer as Chairman; seconded by Chester Weronko, the motion carried.

Manager Aeilts opened the floor to nominations for Committee Secretary. Chester Weronko nominated Mary Petri. Wilfred Dittmer made a motion to close nominations and to cast a unanimous ballot to elect Mary Petri



Left to right: Wilfred Dittmer, Jennifer Billingsley, Kevin Shelts, Dan Ellwood, Mary Petri, Chester "Ronnie" Weronko, Robert Perry

as Secretary; seconded by Robert Perry, the motion carried.

Manager Aeilts excused himself from the meeting.

Chairman Dittmer opened the floor to nominations for director-candidate(s) of District 4 representing Mt Sterling, Elkhorn, Ripley, Cooperstown and Versailles Townships of Brown County. Chester Weronko nominated Robert Willis. Kevin Shelts made a motion to close nominations; seconded by Robert Perry, the motion carried.

Chairman Dittmer opened the floor to nominations for director-candidate(s) of District 5 representing St. Mary Township of Hancock County; Bethel and LaMoine Townships of McDonough County; Birmingham, Camden, Huntsville and Brooklyn Townships of Schuyler County. Kevin Shelts nominated Richard "Rick" King.

Robert Perry made a motion to close

nominations; seconded by Chester Weronko, the motion carried.

Chairman Dittmer opened the floor to nominations for director-candidate(s) of District 6 representing Melrose, Fall Creek, Payson, Richfield and Beverly Townships of Adams County; Kinderhook, Barry, Fairmount and Hadley Townships of Pike County. Robert Perry nominated John Kestner. Jennifer Billingsley made a motion to close nominations; seconded by Kevin Shelts, the motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m. following a motion by Kevin Shelts; seconded by Dan Ellwood, the motion carried.

Wilfred B. Dittmer, Chairman

Mary Petri, Secretary

Director Nominations By Petition

The bylaws of Adams Electric Cooperative provide that nominations can be made by petition of 25 Cooperative Members. Blank petitions are available at the Cooperative office.

The names of the nominees by petition will be listed on the official ballot to be voted on at the September 4, 2002 Annual Meeting. Petitions must be returned to the office by 5 p.m., Monday, August 19, 2002.



A Community Helps Save The Princess

Left: Marie Wallace, manager of the Princess.

Students were begging, "We are bored out of our minds." Just after Rushville's theater announced its closing in 1994, pleas from local residents young and old flooded the Rushville Times.

The old theater had been entertaining residents since 1917 only closing its doors for a short time during World War II.

The Princess's history dates back to the early years of cinema, back when silent movies were the best technology. These were the days of Charlie Chaplin and Buster Keaton. Back then, Rushville's theater had its own pit area beneath the screen where an organist would play live music. A means of adding sound synchronous to the film was finally introduced in 1929. The Lloyd Pearson family



owned and operated the

Princess until the 1970s when Ray Roloff, a newcomer to Rushville purchased the theater. The Roloffs loved Rushville and the theater, but family needs took them away. The theater changed hands again, this time purchased by David and Pat Grate and named the "Schuyler Theatre". The Grates made the theater a family affair. However, the time commitment along with their full-time jobs was impossible. It was now 1994 and the theater would shut its doors only to find the town rooting for its reappearance.

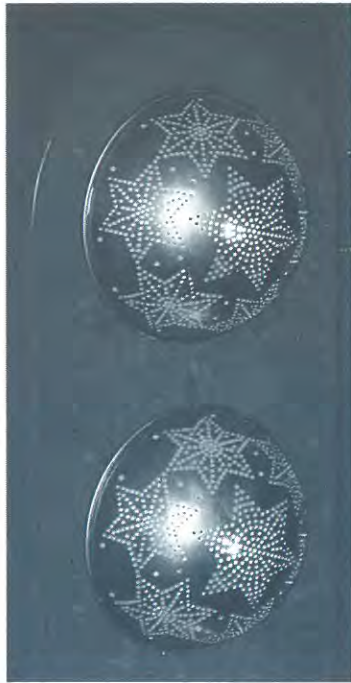
Within months, the community joined hands. The Schuyler County Economic Development Corporation organized town meetings to evaluate the public's support. The support was wide-spread, but no single individual could take on the project alone. A

community group was formed to create a for-profit organization and sell shares for \$100 each so that as many people as possible could share in the ownership.

The project was a success. Pledges poured in; the group reached \$35,000 almost immediately. By June of 1995, the board signed papers to purchase the theater. In the coming months the pledges continued.

Much renovation and restoration work lay ahead. Rushville's old-time theater would again have the old-time feel. Talented residents donated their time. One local contractor offered to repair the roof and marquee. Another helped build a concession stand, repair doors and cracked rafters. An interior designer shared her resources and design skills. A local attorney offered free legal assistance. Even students raised money to purchase shares. Over 200 local residents volunteered to clean and paint the entire theater.

Every seat was repaired



Left: Lights that line the inside of the Princess Theater. Can you guess what the lights are made from? Look closely. Answer below.

and the rows were adjusted for more leg room. The floors were stripped and resealed. A new screen, lights and sound system was installed.

Bringing back the old look meant bringing back the old name. The sign needed help. It was adequate, but lacked the character of the old flashy marquee. Luckily, Ken Carlyle resided in Rushville. He was just the person with

the skill to recreate the neon lighting. In order to resemble the appearance, as it was in the 1940's, Ken spent hours wiring and bending over 200 feet of glass tubes. A local autobody repair specialist sandblasted the metal frame and repainted the structure red, white and blue. The lettering was designed by a local commercial artist giving it period accuracy.

On September 8, 1995 the theater reopened. The marquee was ready just in time for Rushville's annual Christmas celebration and lighting of downtown. Once again "Princess" shined on the old theater's marquee. Manning the switch was Bill Worthington, who organized the marquee

restoration.

Today, a large portion of the weekly business is still handled by volunteers, while Marie Wallace manages the theater on a part-time basis. Movies are shown every weekend. Showtime is at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. A special Sunday matinee at 4:00 p.m. is scheduled on occasion. Movies are \$4.00 for adults and \$3.00 for kids, ages 10 and under. The Princess offers specials that include candy, popcorn, and a drink with the purchase of a ticket. Specials offer a savings of \$0.75. The special costs \$7.00 for adults and \$6.00 for kids.

If you're looking for something to do or if you want to revisit a piece of Rushville's history, stop in for a movie. Be sure to grab a bag of popcorn fresh from an original 1920 popcorn machine.

Below: The movie "Spirit" on the reel behind the scenes. Film strips come in sections. This one is almost 2 foot in diameter after it's pieced together on the reel!



Answer: The lights that line the inside of the Princess Theater are made from colanders!



National News

Bush Signs an 'Energized' Farm Bill

With farm-state members of Congress looking on, President Bush signed a historic, multi-year farm bill. It contains an energy title, for the first time, that authorizes \$405 million for new energy conservation programs in which electric co-ops can participate. The bill also provides \$180 million to bring local TV programming and high-speed broadband services to rural communities. In signing the measure May 13, Bush said, "The success of America's farmers and ranchers is essential to the success of the American economy."

No More Rolling Blackouts?

Cautioning the state not to rest on last summer's laurels, California Gov. Gray Davis has released his plans to avoid power supply problems this summer. While congratulating the state for its energy conservation effort, which was largely responsible for the state's ability to survive the summer without a single blackout, Davis added, "We need to continue to be vigilant." His plan would renew California's \$35 million "Flex Your Power" media campaign and

expand consumer rebates for energy efficient appliances. The addition of 3,454 MW of new capacity anticipated by this summer will also help to avoid supply problems, Davis said.



Minnesota Welcomes Urban Co-op

Phillips Community Energy will focus on conservation.

Minnesota welcomed its first new electric co-op in nearly 50 years last month, and it is right smack in the heart of Minneapolis.

Launched with help from the Minnesota statewide association and a \$30,000 grant from Great River Energy G&T, the Phillips Community Energy Co-op encompasses an area immediately

south of the downtown central business district.

The co-op aims to promote and deliver energy conservation programs that would help reduce electricity costs for residents and businesses in one of the poorest areas of the city.

"This is a significant opportunity to bring the cooperative principles of rural electric co-ops to an urban setting," said Kandace Olsen, communications manager of Great River Energy, Elk River.

Olsen represents Great River on the Phillips board of directors. The board's 18 members also include representatives of local community organizations, cooperatives, and the two IOUs, Xcel Energy, which provides electricity, and Reliant Energy, which provides natural gas.

The launch culminated a two-year effort in which officials of the Minnesota statewide worked with state and local government officials to provide what statewide general manager Mark Glaess termed a cooperative solution to the challenging energy needs.

Henepin County Commissioner, Peter McLaughlin was named interim president of the Phillips board.

Co-op Facts:

- Adams Electric was organized May 11, 1938 and energized its first lines on March 27, 1939.
- Your Cooperative is one of about 1,000 rural cooperatives in the United States.



Calendar of Events

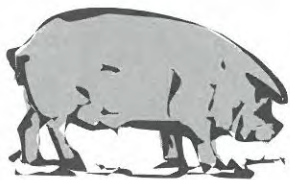


Camp Point 4th of July Celebration

July 4
Camp Point, IL

Riverfront 4th of July Celebration

July 4
Riverfront, Quincy, IL
(217) 223-1000



Pike County Pig Days

July 5 & 6
Pittsfield, IL
(217) 285-2971

Tri-State Lugnuts

CRUISE-IN

July 13, 6:30 p.m.
Wal-Mart, Quincy, IL
53rd & Broadway



Quincy Area Blues Fest

July 19-21
Washington Park
5th & Hampshire
Quincy, IL

Sweet Corn Festival

July 28
Golden, IL
Sponsored by the
Golden Historical Society



COUNTY FAIRS

Schuyler County Fair

July 2-7
Rushville, IL

Hancock County Fair

July 17-21
Augusta, IL
(217) 223-1000

Brown County Fair

July 23-28
Mt. Sterling, IL

Adams County Fair

July 25-31
Mendon, IL
(217) 936-2230

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The Adams Electric Cooperative

Annual Meeting will be

Wednesday, September 4, 2002



Earl Struck
*President and Chief
Executive Officer
Association of Illinois
Electric Cooperatives*

Electric Deregulation – Another Y2K?

"So far, the decade-long effort to create a workable, competitive market for electricity in the United States has been mostly a flop." That was the conclusion of the author of a recent article in a national publication.

As of the first of May, Illinois residential consumers served by power companies have "choice" in their purchase of electric energy, meaning they are allowed to choose their electric energy supplier from competing providers. Consumer choice is an admirable concept, and competition is the cornerstone of other sectors of our economy, but as I suspected, May 1, 2002, was for the electric industry in Illinois what January 1, 2000, (Y2K) was for the computer world -- virtually a non-event.

Competitive supplier options for residential customers haven't materialized in the other deregulated states. More significantly, no new energy suppliers have shown any inclination whatsoever to compete for customers in rural areas served by electric cooperatives. In the early days of rural electrification in the 1930s, large power suppliers didn't believe they could make a profit by serving rural consumers. Today, it looks as though they haven't changed their minds.

The Illinois deregulation statute leaves the decision to enter the competitive market up to the individual electric cooperatives. So what are the electric cooperative leaders in Illinois doing? Well, they are doing precisely what we told members of the Illinois General Assembly in 1997 they would do. They are staying informed. They are monitoring and analyzing the situation. They are informing their fellow members at their annual meetings. They are working to assure that their cooperatives adapt to be ready for

competition.

Some of the state's electric cooperatives have entered the competitive market. Others will follow. Some will continue to monitor the situation before making a decision.

This spring, several Illinois electric cooperatives held their annual meetings. At each of those meetings, the boards of directors and management reported to members on their studies of

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deregulation. Other cooperatives will conduct meetings in coming months. It is important that you attend, read your co-op's newsletters, and stay informed.

Cooperative leaders are committed to making decisions that are in the best interest of their members. They will not act in haste. Moving too quickly is one of the factors that contributed to the California deregulation fiasco. Illinois' legislators had the foresight to phase in deregulation, allowing electric providers to first open the market to commercial and industrial consumers. Members of the Illinois General Assembly also wisely understood that for cooperatives and municipal electric systems, decisions on deregulation should be made by locally elected leaders.

Deregulation will not change one critical fact. Reliable and affordable electricity will always be critical to the economic health and well-being

of rural Illinois.

We all witnessed the news accounts of power shortages in California. My wife and I attended a meeting there last fall, and we stayed in a large hotel that had earlier been closed for seven weeks because of power shortages and sky-high electricity prices. Problems of this type haven't occurred in Illinois, and electric cooperatives are making every effort to make sure that they don't. Illinois co-ops are building new generating facilities, negotiating long-term power contracts, forming regional and national alliances with other cooperatives, adding peaking generation units, and exploring new alternatives such as fuel cells and microturbines.

Electric cooperatives follow seven basic principles all cooperatives follow: voluntary and open membership; democratic member control; members' economic participation; autonomy and independence; education, training and information; cooperation among cooperatives; and concern for community. That is the basis for a business plan that will stand the test of time.

I trust the directors of electric cooperatives. I know these men and women personally. They are cooperative members just like you, and they make decisions that are in the best interest of the members they serve.

Will deregulation be a flop in Illinois? Only time will tell. We should be grateful, however, that Illinois legislators enacted a deregulation law that is as reasonable, fair, and as forward thinking as any in the nation. They were right to trust local co-op leaders, who are local men and women, friends, neighbors -- members just like you, people you can trust.

New Journeyman Lineman *at Adams Electric*

Brian Anderson returned to work at Adams Electric Cooperative as a Journeyman Lineman, at the Mt. Sterling Service Center, on Monday, June 10, 2002.

Brian left Adams Electric in June 2000 to accept the Safety Instructor position at the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives in Springfield, Illinois. After two (2) years in Springfield, Brian is returning to work at Adams Electric as a Journeyman Lineman. He will be

working with the line crew at the Mt. Sterling Service Center.

Brian was hired as a Groundman in May 1988. He began apprentice lineman training and became a Journeyman Lineman in 1995 and Line Foreman in December 1999. Brian and his wife Tricia live in Rushville along with their two children, Brenna and Matthew.

The board of directors and employees welcome Brian back to Adams Electric Cooperative.



**Welcome Back
Brian!**

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Multi-County 4-H Electricity School

Have you ever wired a light switch? Local students learned just that at the annual 4-H Electricity School held June 6, 2002, in Bailey Park.

Forty students from Adams, Brown, Schuyler, Pike and Cass County participated in this year's event. Beginning students learned how to make their own extension cords. When asked what plans students had for their cords, Brandon Mock of Quincy said, "I'll probably give mine to my dad." Elizabeth Clow thought she might try hers out with her lava lamp at home. The first-year students were taught by Chris Hugenberg and Tafi Walker of AmerenCIPS, Sharon Knorr and LeAnn Million from the Adams/Brown County Cooperative Extension Office and Heather Weeks

and George Shrage of AmeriCorps.

Second-year students received training in basic house wiring. This class was instructed by Brad Smith and Cory Herren of Adams Electric Cooperative.

Third-year participants practiced their house wiring skills and broadened their knowledge with three and four-way circuit training. Robert Post and Larry Long of Adams Electric Cooperative taught this group.

Adam Tenhouse, a 3rd year student from Liberty, said he's been able to use his skills when he helped with some wiring work at home. The advanced class learned how to

wire a breaker panel and how the AMR (automatic meter reading) system works. They also had an opportunity to tour a substation. Instruction was provided by Adams Electric Cooperative employees Randy Rigg and Donnie Ward.

A safety demonstration by Robert Post and Randy Rigg included a discussion on pole climbing and bucket truck safety. Students had the opportunity to try on safety gloves and pole climbing gear.

A special thanks goes to Prairie Farms Dairy for providing ice cream for the students.



Ryan Clayton, a 5-year member of 4-H, assembles an extension cord.

Safety Tips

Never climb trees where power lines are near.

Call Adams Electric BEFORE pruning, trimming or cutting down limbs that are near overhead power lines.

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 5. General Electric 6. Chevrolet



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Princess Theater
 116 E. Lafayette, Rushville
(217) 322-2722

Showtime:
 7:30 p.m. Fri., Sat. & Sun.

All Meters Are Routinely Inspected

Adams Electric Cooperative 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.

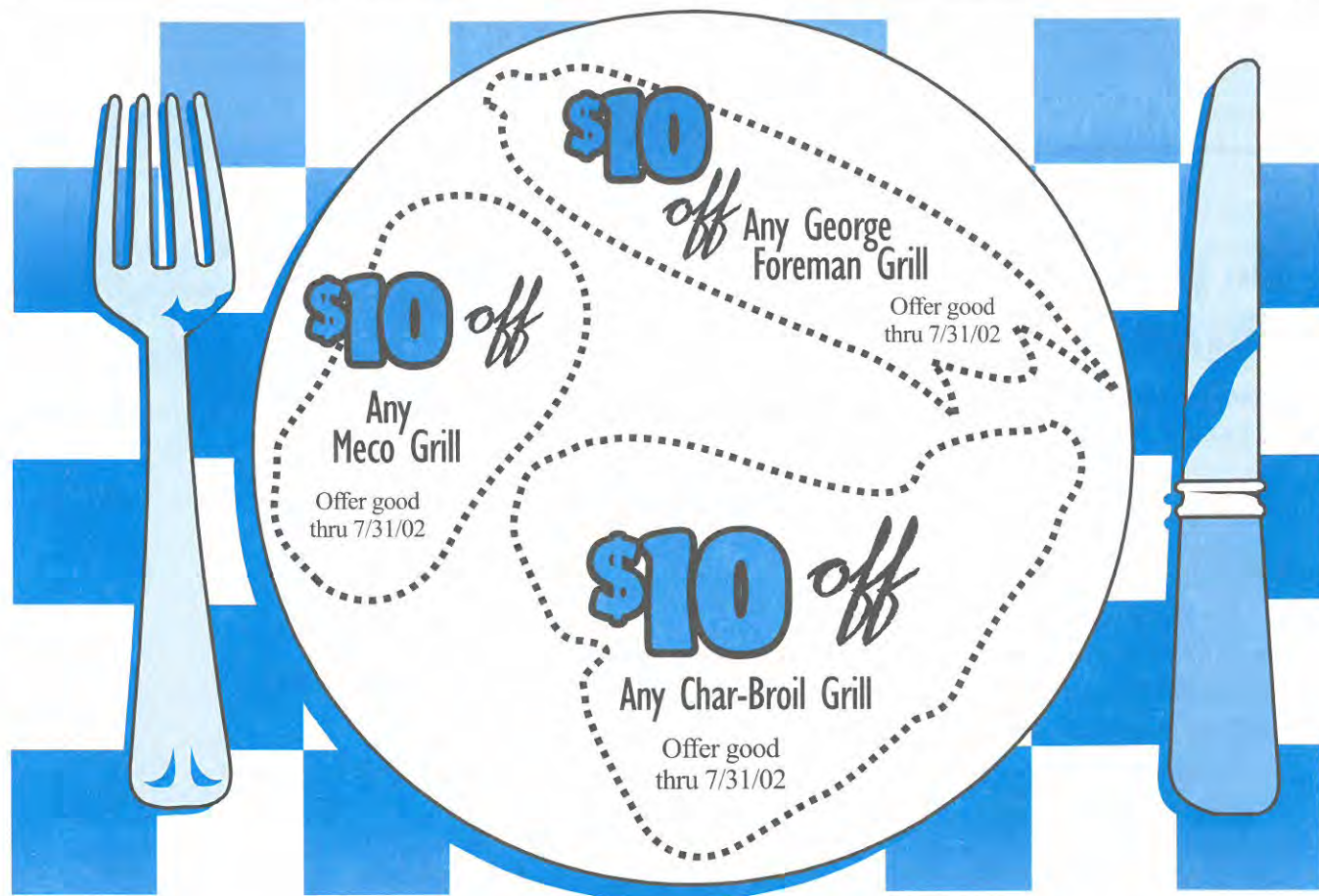
Your meter is a highly calibrated and accurate device. In fact, few commodities are as accurately measured as electricity. In routine and requested meter tests conducted by Adams Electric Cooperative, it is rare to find a meter that is outside the established

tolerance level.

The majority of meters that are outside of the operating standard run slow. 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 Cooperative suggests that Members look at their usage before they request a meter test.

Just in time for grillin' season!



Adams Electric Cooperative

700 E. Wood St., Camp Point
800-232-4797



Adams Electric Cooperative's **Country Kitchen**



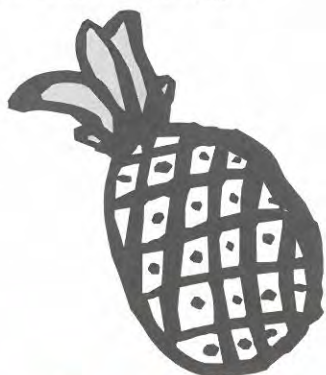
Calling all area cooks!

If you have a favorite recipe that you would like to share with others and/or if your organization has a cookbook they would like highlighted in the Adams Outlet, please submit the recipes or cookbooks to: AEC, Attn: Laura Dotson, PO Box 247, Camp Point, IL 62320 Happy Cooking!

Tropical Chicken Salad

- 1 1/2 cups diced cooked chicken breast
- 1 cup crushed pineapple, packed in fruit juice, drained
- 2 tablespoons chopped slivered almonds
- 1/2 cup chopped celery
- 1/4 cup fat-free mayonnaise
- 1 teaspoon Brown Sugar Twin

Combine chicken, pineapple, almonds, and celery. Add mayonnaise and Brown Sugar Twin. Mix well. Refrigerate at least 30 minutes. Gently stir again before serving.



Crystal Salad

Submitted by: Marilyn Stout

- 1-3 oz. pkg. lemon jello
- 1 1/4 cup hot water
- 1/2 cup pineapple juice
- 1 cup cool whip
- 2 medium apples, diced, unpeeled
- 1/2 cup pineapple, diced
- 1 stalk celery, chopped
- 1 cup small marshmallows

(Crystal Salad continued)

Dissolve jello in hot water. Add pineapple juice. When it begins to gel, fold in cool whip. Combine remaining ingredients and fold into jello mixture.



Different Potato Salad

8 potatoes, boiled in jackets, peeled and sliced

Dressing:

- 1 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1 onion, grated
- 1 teaspoon horseradish
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon celery seed
- 2 tablespoons dried parsley

Begin with layer of sliced potatoes in casserole; spread with dressing mixture and continue alternating, ending with mixture. Refrigerate. Keeps well.



Lemon Cloud Pie

- 1 pkg. (4-serving size) lemon pudding
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 3/4 cups water
- 1 egg, slightly beaten
- 1 1/2 cups thawed frozen reduced-calorie nondairy whipped topping
- 1/2 cup shredded sweetened coconut
- 1 prepared graham-cracker crust

Beat together pudding mix, sugar, 1/4 cup water and egg in medium saucepan. Mix in remaining water until blended. Place saucepan over medium heat. Let cool to room temperature, stirring occasionally. When completely cooled, whisk lightly. Fold in whipped topping and coconut until evenly mixed. Spread filling in crumb crust. Refrigerate until set, about 40 minutes.

DID YOU KNOW?

You can remove onion or garlic odors from your hands if you wash your hands with tomato soup.



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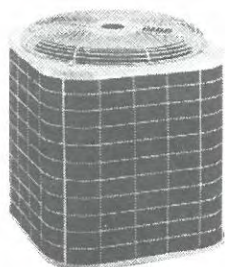
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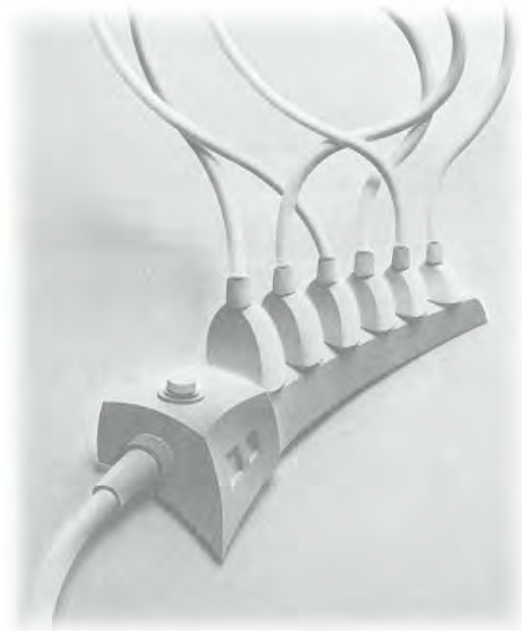
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<i>Range</i>	



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