

November 2007
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Adams Outlet

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

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Ask the Editor

Member Q&A



We're going to replace our incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent lights. How do I know what wattage to look for?

Compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) use less watts and produce a brighter light than old fashioned incandescent bulbs. You'll be matching lumens rather than watts. (Watts are a measure of energy use, not light strength.) When choosing a bulb, look at the watt equivalent rather than actual watts to achieve the brightness you desire. You should find this on the packaging of most CFLs. To compare lumens and watts, see the chart below:

Incandescent Watts	CFL Watt Range	Lumen Range
40	8-10	450
60	13-18	890
75	18-22	1210
100	23-28	1750
150	34-42	2780

I've heard that some items like big screen TVs and cell phone chargers use electricity even when turned off. Should I be unplugging these every time I'm finished using them? How much difference would it make?

According to Energy Star, 15 percent of the average home's electricity goes to power home electronics. About 40 percent of the energy consumed by these items, is used when they are sitting idle. Some of these items include cell phone chargers, iPods, remote-controlled TVs, computers, DVD players, washing machines, etc.

Big screen TVs are probably the worst energy hogs, using up 30 watts per day while turned off. These TVs use power to maintain features like clock, channel settings and maintain connections to satellite receivers or cable boxes.

It is a good idea to unplug cell phone chargers and other adapters when not in use. You should also consider unplugging extra appliances, such as an extra refrigerator in the garage that's only used on special occasions, or the clock or television in the spare bedroom.

Energy-efficient technology exists to greatly reduce

the amount of energy used during idle time periods. For instance, energy-efficient TVs use 30 percent less power.

To help save more energy, check out Touchstone Energy's Home Energy Saver, a free web-based home energy audit tool. Visit www.adamselectric.coop and click on "Home Energy Audit."

If I sign up for your new bank drafting program to pay my electric bill, when will my payment come out of my checking account?

The amount will be automatically drafted from your account on the 21st of each month or the business day before, if the 21st falls on a holiday or weekend.

Dear Adams Electric,

Thank you for the grant for our playground project. Your support has been invaluable! We were able to order the last pieces for the playground!

Thanks again,
P.L.A.Y. (People Loving
Active Youth), Rushville

Thank you for having Doug Rye in the Tri-State Area. We were at your Wednesday evening event. It was interesting to see him "in the flesh". We continue to appreciate our geothermal heating and air conditioning and other energy saving ideas.

Jack Curry

We would like to personally thank you for your generous donation toward the development of our new cardio fitness lab at QJHS.

Thank you!
Theresa Mapes
Steve McMillen
QJHS PE Dept.

The winners from the drawing at the Tastefully Simple booth at the 2007 Annual Meeting were:

\$10 gift certificate - Amy Anderson

\$20 gift certificate - Ruth Howe

Chris Loos, Tastefully Simple Independent Consultant

Email your questions and/or comments to: ldotson@adams.net (Please write "Ask the Editor" in the subject line.) Or, mail your questions/comments to: Attn: Laura, Adams Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 247, Camp Point, IL 62320.



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Editor
Laura Dotson



Analyzing Rates

In anticipation of a rate increase in 2009, the Cooperative has initiated a cost of service study and rate design analysis with the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives' Engineering Department. It is important prior to adjusting electric rates to make sure each rate class is contributing fairly to the margins of the Cooperative.

Adams Electric Cooperative has many different rate designs to accommodate the different types of members we serve and to also influence the time when electricity is used. These rates range from the standard general purpose single-phase rates to large three-phase interruptible rates. As of the end of July, the Cooperative issues 8,372 bills. Of the 8,372 bills, 5,071 are for general purpose single-phase service. The interesting thing is that 2,994 bills are for incentive type rates where the Cooperative has the ability to control the members' load. We have seen a migration over the years of members moving from our standard general purpose rate to rates that allow the Cooperative to interact and influence the way members use their electricity. Since the first of the year through the end of July, the Cooperative has mailed 423 fewer general purpose single-phase bills and has mailed 1,227 more incentive type rate bills. The ability to interact and control members' loads helps the Cooperative save money by allowing us to shave peak usage avoiding the market when prices are high.

In anticipation of higher electric rates in 2009, the board wants to do even more to help members use electricity as efficiently and prudently as possible. We do not want any surprises for the membership in 2009 and want to communicate what is taking place long before any action is

taken. Besides the rebates, electric rate incentives, and loans for geothermal and air-to-air heat pumps, the board approved expanding our loan program

to allow members to obtain loans of up to \$5,000 for energy efficient improvements to their home. The term on the loan is 5 years at 6% interest. We are also promoting the use of Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFL). The Cooperative handed out over 600 lamps at the annual meeting and is running a CFL Challenge until the end of the year.

The Challenge is for members to replace five inefficient incandescent bulbs with five CFLs. Members who meet the challenge are entered into a drawing for a \$100 bill credit. Entry forms are available in the Adams Outlet or at the Camp Point office.

The best way to minimize any rate increase is to minimize the amount of kWhs you use. Hopefully, the Cooperative is providing you ways to help manage your usage. The Cooperative recently teamed up with other cooperatives to host two Doug Rye seminars. WaterFurnace, Florida Heat Pump, Peters Heating and Air Conditioning, John Wood Community College, and STARadio sponsored the seminars. At one of the seminars, a question was asked "Why do electric cooperatives promote and support energy efficiency?" Doug Rye answered that question by stating "the members own the electric Cooperative and they do what is best for them". He is right on with that response. We answer to the members and our decisions are based on what is best for the overall membership.

The Cooperative will continue to work hard to provide you affordable, high-quality and reliable electricity service. If you have any questions, please send me an email at jthompsn@adams.net or call me at 1-800-232-4797.



General Manager
Jim Thompson PE

The Adams Electric Cooperative office will be closed **Thurs., Nov. 22 & Fri., Nov. 23** to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday.

Bucket Trucks For Sale



Truck
#12



Truck
#30

Both trucks are 1998 FL-70 Freightliner bucket trucks w/210 HP Cummins diesel engine, 6 spd., manual trans., air brakes, A/C, Knapheide steel utility body, 51 ft. Versalift VST 50001 insulated bucket unit with jib, liner & emergency power. Both units were di-electric tested in Feb. 2007 and are in good working condition. Mileage on truck #12 is 221,100 mi. & #30 is 251,500 mi. These units will be sold as is.

Adams Electric Cooperative will be selling both trucks on Ebay starting Nov. 20, 2007 through Nov. 30, 2007. For a direct link to each listing, visit Adams Electric's website at: www.adamselectric.coop and click on "links". If you have any questions, contact Norm Boone or Tim Brecht at (217) 593-7701 or (800) 232-4797.

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- Skid Plate
- Winch Kit
- Windshield

Lighten Up!

Take the Adams Electric Cooperative

CFL Challenge

Help us help the environment by accepting the Adams Electric Cooperative CFL Challenge of installing at least five compact fluorescent bulbs in your home by the end of the year.

CFLs use about 75% less electricity than standard incandescent bulbs, produce far less heat, and last eight to twelve times longer!

Each time you replace a traditional light bulb with a compact fluorescent bulb, you not only help the environment, you save money on your electric bill!

Accept the *CFL Challenge* today... together we can make a difference!



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One winner will be randomly drawn from all pledge forms received by December 31. One entry per member.

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I replaced ☐ incandescent
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AEC's
CFL Challenge,
PO Box 247,
Camp Point, IL
62320

Deadline:
12/31/07

Cut at least 5 standard bulbs out of use, replace them with CFLs, and return this pledge form.

Automatic Bank Drafting

Now Available

The Automatic Bank Drafting option is available to members whose accounts are in good standing. If there are insufficient funds to cover the monthly bank draft, Adams Electric will assess a \$25.00 charge, remove the account from the plan, and mail a notice of amount due.



Adams Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

✓ You can pay YOUR electric bill out of your checking account automatically every month.

✓ You must complete an authorization form. **Forms must be received by November 15 in order to take effect by the November 21 due date.** For forms received after November 15, automatic bank drafting will begin with the electric bill due on December 21.

✓ To receive an authorization form, call or stop by Adams Electric or print the form from our website at: **www.adamselectric.coop.**

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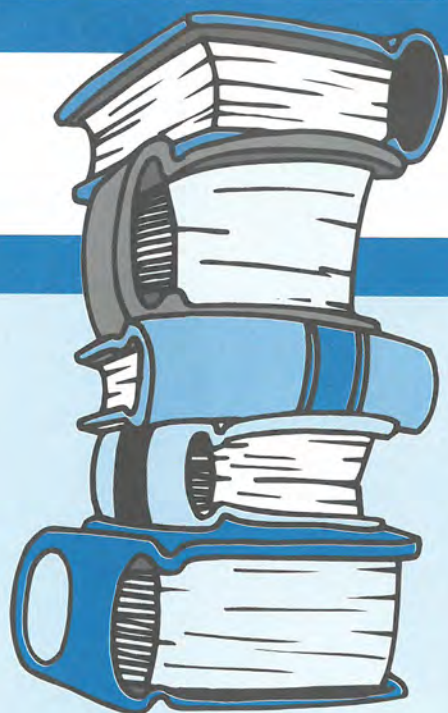
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- 4 scholarships available for the sons/daughters of Illinois cooperative members for any two or four year accredited college in the United States.
- 1 scholarship reserved for the son/daughter of an Illinois cooperative employee/director for any school in the United States.
- 2 scholarships available for the son/daughter of an Illinois cooperative member, employee, or director for an Illinois community college.

Each scholarship will be worth \$1250

Applicants will be judged on grade point average, college entrance exam scores, work and volunteer experience, school and civic activities, and a short essay.

For more information or to receive an application by mail, contact Adams Electric Cooperative at (800) 232-4797. Or, send us an email at: ldotson@adams.net. **Deadline to enter: December 31, 2007**

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The Art of Quiltmaking

Quiltmaking is an art. So much thought goes into choosing the perfect pattern and selecting just the right colors and fabrics. Stitching all the layers together can become quite time consuming and require a lot of dedication.

Attaching all the shapes to create the top is called "piecing." Changing the position of dark and light colors within the same pattern could result in entirely different designs so carefully positioning each type of fabric is key.

Once a quilt has been "pieced" together, a quilter must "quilt" the design. Quilting is the stitches running through the layers (top, batting and backing) which forms a decorative pattern on the quilt and also holds the layers together.

Some quilters piece and quilt by hand. Some say that's part of what makes it special. Of course, making a quilt entirely by hand takes a greater time commitment. Piecing and quilting by hand can also put a lot of strain on a quilter's fingers, wrists, and eyes. Some quilters have no choice but to use a machine, at least for part of the project.

And then there's the machines. "Oh, you should see my machine!" as a quilter would say. It's not uncommon for a quilter to own several machines. A long arm quilting machine is capable of reaching over bulky material when making a larger quilt. Some of the fancier sewing machines literally sew by themselves. Patterns can be downloaded from a computer or a memory card. Machines work faster, offer more possibilities and take the strain off of a quilter's hands and eyes.

Bernadine Terstriep, of Liberty, has been quilting for about 30 years. She uses a sewing machine for piecing but does all of her quilting by hand. "You've got to love to do it because it's a lot of work," she says. "Rotary cutters and plastic templates are a quilter's best friend," she adds.

"I have four girls and I made most of their clothes. My mom made a few quilts," explains Bernadine. Most of Bernadine's recent projects have been queen-size quilts. It might take two months to complete a quilt but a lot of them take a lot longer. "I normally take my time," she says. "I have other hobbies like gardening."

Bernadine makes most of her quilts for family and friends and

has kept a few around the house. She has given quilts to all of her children and nine of her ten grandchildren. "My youngest grandchild is only a year old. I gave all of my other grandchildren a quilt one year at Christmas. I wrapped them all in the same size box. I had a name on each box. They wondered what was going on. They couldn't figure it out," she laughs. Bernadine said that she made the quilts over several years and saved them up.

"I've made two quilts for church raffles, some for friends, and many oth-



Far left: Quilt made by Bernadine Terstriep; Far right: A portion of a quilt going clockwise: A portion of a quilt pieced by Judy Dupoy and quilted by Joyce Dietrich working on a wall hanging of an eagle; Bernadine Terstriep

ers," she says. Bernadine added that she entered the church's raffle for her own quilt, "I would have liked to win that one back." Bernadine has entered her quilts at the county fair in the quilting, embroidery and piecing categories and won all three classes.

"What makes a good quilt is good fabric, the choice of colors and putting it together really precise. If you do that, then you've got an heirloom going on," says Bernadine.

As a member of the Nifty Needlers, a quilt guild in Rushville, she helps make a quilt for Habitat for Humanity every year. She has also donated quilts to Beardstown Christian Academy and given quilts to her children, grandchildren, husband, and friends. She has even sold some of her handy work.

She attends numerous quilting retreats including local events at Jensen Woods and Sprague's Kinderhook Lodge. "The retreats are just as much about sewing as they are about fellowship," she comments. Judy has entered several shows winning several blue ribbons.

Every year, students at Webster School in Rushville read *The Patchwork Quilt*, and as part of the lesson, Judy helps the students create a quilt from muslin blocks and fabric markers.

The majority of her work was handstitched until it started to bother her wrists. "I do most of my work by machine now," adds Judy. "I have six sewing machines. I can have two running while I'm sewing on a third." What would normally take months to do by hand, Judy can finish in a couple of days by machine.

With a quilt design painted on an outdoor shed and quilts displayed on several walls inside and adorning much of her furniture, it's obvious to see she's a dedicated quilter. Judy adds, "It's not about being perfect, it's about enjoying the process of getting it done."

Joyce Dietrich, of Camp Point, enjoys making baby quilts, table runners and wall hangings. "I like something that goes kind of quick," she says. Although, Joyce has only been quiltmaking for about 16 years, she has managed to make a baby quilt for all ten of her grandchildren. "I just finished the last one," she adds. "The largest project I've ever made was a queen size quilt for a church raffle. I loved the colors in that one."

Joyce prefers to do her piecing by machine and not a fancy one at that. "I just use the Singer that I've had for years. I've done some piecing by hand, but it doesn't hold real good." She quilts the layers together by hand. "My aunt always said 10-12 stitches per inch makes a good quilt. I cannot get close to that."

Joyce and several of her friends get together and help each other. "We show and tell. I ask their advice when picking out fabric. Sometimes it's hard to envision what it's going to look like."

"I've done a lot of embroidery work and lots of arts and crafts but quilting is the biggest thing," she says. "I've shown at quilt shows but never entered any to be judged. I make quilts mostly for keepsakes," says Joyce.

Quiltmaking takes talent. Anyone who has spent the time carefully crafting a handmade item, especially someone who has done any type of needlework or sewing realizes the commitment involved in finishing a quilt. Thank you to these members for sharing their stories.

If you have a special talent and have made a handcrafted item you would like to share with us, feel free to send us a photo. We love to hear stories from members and, you never know, we just might feature your craft in a future edition of the Adams Outlet.



baby quilt made by Joyce Dietrich. Above, starting upper left and her friend, Judy Logsdon; Judy Dupoy making a quilt for a friend. works on a quilt that she and her granddaughter pieced together.

Judy Dupoy, a retired teacher from Rushville, says "I was a 4-Her and started sewing when I was eight years old."

Judy began quilting in 1975, learning how to quilt from her mother. After receiving some embroidered flower pieces from her husband's grandmother and great-grandmother, she was on her way. "I made the rest of the flowers and quilted it myself," she says.

Slow Cooker Stuffing

Submitted by Phyllis Dingson

1/4 cup butter, melted
1 cup onions, chopped
1 1/2 tsp. sage
1 tsp. leaf thyme (optional)
4 cups chicken broth
2 cups celery, chopped
1 cup mushrooms (optional)
1 tsp. poultry seasoning
1 tsp. pepper
2 eggs, beaten
12 cups dry bread crumbs
or 1-1 lb. loaf, equal to 20
slices, toast bread (optional)

Mix butter, celery, mushrooms (if using), spices, onions, eggs and broth. Add crumbs. Stir to blend. Cook in slow cooker on high for 45 min. Reduce to low for 6 hours.

Turkey Soup

Submitted by David DeMoss

Leftover turkey, cut into chunks
Chicken broth (about 4 cans)
1 cup of each vegetable - corn,
green beans & sliced carrots
(or peas instead of beans)
Pasta (about 6 oz.)
Celery seed, garlic salt & onion
powder to taste
Finely chopped onion &/or celery
stalks (optional)

Boil leftover turkey chunks with chicken broth. Add seasonings, next add pasta and cook until soft. Add vegetables and optional celery & onion. Cook until tender (5 minutes or more). Add water to thin if needed. Serve and enjoy.

Easy Peach Cobbler

Submitted by Fran Hughes

1 large can sliced peaches
1 cup Bisquick
1 cup sugar
1/4 tsp. nutmeg
1 egg

Spray 9x9 pan. Pour peaches in pan. Make a crumbly mixture out of other ingredients and put on top. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes.



Adams Electric Cooperative's Country Kitchen

Is your group or organization selling a cookbook? Send us the details and three sample recipes. We'll feature it for free (space permitting). Be sure to include a contact phone number. Have a favorite family recipe you'd like to share? We'd love to hear from you! Mail recipes to: Attn: Laura, Adams Electric Cooperative, PO Box 247, Camp Point, IL 62320
Or, save a stamp and send recipes with your electric bill!

Barbecue Sandwiches

Submitted by Mary Hesse

1 1/2 lbs. beef for stew
1 1/2 lbs. pork cubes
2 cups chopped onion
3 green peppers, chopped
1 can (6 oz.) tomato paste
1/2 cup brown sugar
1/4 cup vinegar
1/4 cup chili powder
1/2 tsp. salt
1 tsp. dry mustard
2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce

Cook in slow cooker for 8 hours, then stir with wire whisk until shredded.

German Baked Beans

Submitted by Esther Strosaker

2 1/2 cans pork & beans
1 lb. hamburger, fried & drained
1/2 cup brown sugar
1/2 cup minced onion
1 cup applesauce
1 cup catsup
1 tsp. mustard
Salt & pepper

Combine ingredients in a 2 1/2 qt. baking dish. Bake for 1 hour at 350 degrees.

Taffy Apple Salad

Submitted by Marilyn Stout

1 can (16 oz.) pineapple chunks,
diced and juice reserved
2 cups miniature marshmallows
1/2 cup sugar
1 Tbsp. all-purpose flour
1 tsp. white vinegar
1 egg, beaten well
1 container (8 oz.) frozen
whipped topping, thawed
4 medium apples, peeled
and diced
1 1/2 cups dry roasted peanuts,
chopped fine

Refrigerate marshmallows and pineapple, covered overnight. In a small saucepan, stir together reserved pineapple juice, sugar, flour, vinegar and egg. Cook over medium-low heat, stirring for about 5 minutes or until temperature reaches 160 degrees on an instant-read thermometer. Refrigerate, covered, in a bowl overnight. In a large bowl, combine the two chilled mixtures with the whipped topping, apples and 1 1/4 cups of the chopped nuts. Sprinkle remaining nuts on top. Chill until ready to serve.

Household Tips

If you hate the smell of garlic or onion on your hands when you're cooking, rub your hands on a stainless steel bowl or stainless steel sink basin after peeling cloves or chopping onions. The smell will disappear.

When reheating rolls or garlic toast, wrap a damp paper towel around the item before microwaving; the dampness keeps these items soft and fresh.

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In The News...



Doug Rye Spoke Live

Doug Rye, America's most trusted energy expert, presented an innovative seminar at the Quality Inn in Hannibal and John Wood Community College in Quincy. Known as "the King of Caulk and Talk," Doug Rye spoke to over 400 individuals about energy-efficient design, construction techniques, insulation, air infiltration, ductwork and high efficient heating and cooling systems like geothermal. His humorous personality captures audiences across the country. Doug says he puts on about 150 seminars each year.

The local events were sponsored by Florida Heat Pump, WaterFurnace, Peters Heating and Air Conditioning and John Wood Community College and hosted by Adams Electric Cooperative, Northeast Missouri Electric Power Cooperative, Lewis County Rural Electric Cooperative, Missouri Rural Electric Cooperative, and Ralls County Electric Cooperative in partnership with STARadio.

Doug Rye, a licensed architect is the host of the national talk show Home Remedies. Home Remedies can be heard locally every Saturday morning from 9-10 a.m. on WTAD 930 AM.

Touchstone Energy® Classroom Empowerment Grants Energize Local Schools

Touchstone Energy electric cooperatives from across the state are offering a total of \$20,000 in Touchstone Energy Classroom Empowerment Grant funding to innovative, unfunded projects or materials. Qualifying projects are those that improve the learning environment or increase educational resources for the school.

Reprinted from
Adams Electric Cooperative's
Adams Outlet, June 1971

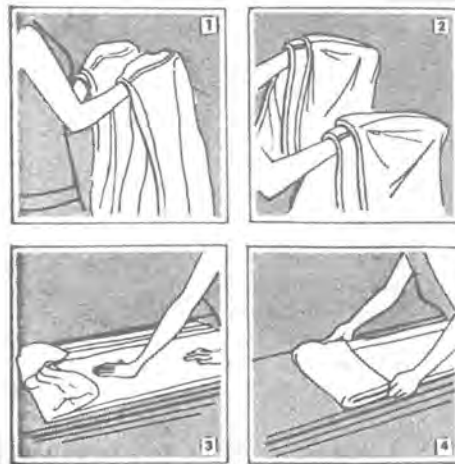
One of the nicest things about sheets with a permanent press finish is that they can be laundered while the bed is being aired, then fitted right back on the bed, ready for sleeping comfort—without ironing if tumbled dry in a dryer. All of which is an added blessing to housewives with limited storage space.

One should, of course, keep extra sheets on hand—it wouldn't make sense not to. And there are times when sheets must be folded, either for shelf storage or for the return trip home from a self-service laundry.

If the sheets are flat, it's no problem to fold them neatly, but fitted ones can be tricky. Here's an easy method of folding the fitted variety, as suggested by laundry specialists at Maytag.

1. With the wrong side of the sheet out, place one hand in each of the upper corners and bring hands together. Flip one corner over the other, getting seam sides to face each other. Bring lengthwise edges parallel. Tuck remaining corners so that seams face.
2. Bring the two pairs of corners together. Turn one pair over the other pair, leaving all four corners nested. With one hand still in nested corners, grasp sheet near center fold with other hand.
3. Place sheet on flat surface and smooth body of sheet.
4. Straighten edges and fold edges in, flattening pocket corner. Fold to desired size to fit linen shelf.

News From Yesteryear





(In The News Continued)

According to Jim Thompson, General Manager of Adams Electric Cooperative, "We feel these grants will provide a real boost for smaller projects that would not otherwise be funded.



As your local Touchstone Energy Cooperative that is committed to the community, improving conditions for local students is a priority."

School administrators or teachers must submit a grant application that can be obtained from Adams Electric Cooperative. The application requests information about the

project, the school and the applicant. A panel of judges will determine which projects will be awarded grants of up to \$1,000 each.

School administrators or teachers must complete and mail, e-mail or fax a grant application to their local Touchstone Energy Cooperative by November 9. The grant awards will be announced on December 10. For more information about Touchstone Energy Classroom Empowerment Grants, please contact Bill Stalder at Adams Electric Cooperative.

Benz Earns NRECA's Board Leadership Certificate

Adams Electric Cooperative Director Jim Benz of Quincy has earned the Board Leadership certificate from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).



Benz was presented his certificate at the September Adams Electric Cooperative board meeting. The NRECA Board Leadership Certificate recognizes individuals who continue their professional development after becoming a Credentialed Cooperative Director. Directors who have attained the Board Leadership

certificate have completed 10 credits in advanced, issues-oriented courses.

Jim Benz has been a director since September 2000 and earned his Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate in February 2002. Benz is currently serving as vice president of the Adams Electric Cooperative Board of Directors.

Today's electric utility environment imposes new demands on electric cooperative directors, particularly increased knowledge of changes in the electric utility business, new governance skills and a working knowledge of the cooperative principles. Adams Electric Cooperative's Board of Directors has a commitment to work through NRECA to sharpen this body of knowledge for the benefit of their electric cooperative consumer-owners.

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This Statement of Ownership will be printed in the November issue of this publication. I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions and/or civil sanctions.

/s/ Laura Dotson, Editor



November

Calendar of Events

17th Annual Woodland Cemetery Tour

Nov. 1 (5-8pm), Quincy. Take a walk thru the lives of Quincy's past inhabitants thru Woodland Cemetery. (217) 224-6873

Hard Times Supper

Nov. 2 (4pm), Loraine United Methodist Church. Northern beans w/pork, mashed potatoes, sauerkraut, applesauce, cornbread, homemade pies & cakes. Carryouts available. Free will donation. Country store. (217) 938-2861

1st Annual Holiday Open House

Nov. 3 (9am-1pm), Behind Brown Co. State Bank on North Capitol, Mt. Sterling. Booths will include Tupperware, Pampered Chef, Tastefully Simple, Home & Garden Party, Mary Kay Cosmetics, Sara's Saltbox, Silpado Designs Jewelry, At Home America, crafts, and much more. (217) 289-3365

Funtime Station

Nov. 3 (10am-3pm), Oakley Lindsay Center, Quincy. "Magic of Reading" theme. 25 booths that focus on favorite books. WQEC/PBS characters join us, concession stand, children's raffle. Tickets: \$3 before event, \$4 at the door/ages 3-adult. For tickets, call (800) 232-3605 x223

Masquerade Ball/Silent Auction

Nov. 3 (6pm), Ridge View Winery, Rt. 107, south of Mt. Sterling. Come in costume. Prizes for funniest, most creative, scariest & more. \$10 entry fee. Feel free to bring an appetizer. Last chance to bid on auction items. View items at www.arusticgarden.com. (Still accepting auction items.) Proceeds for Brown Co. Emergency Services Building. (217) 773-3766

Holy Family Turkey Dinner

Nov. 4 (11am-1:30pm), Seating in St. Mary School gym & carryouts at KC Hall, Mt. Sterling. Traditional turkey dinner. (217) 773-3233

Soup Luncheon

Nov. 4 (11am-2pm), St. Paul Church, Fowler. Soup, sandwiches, dessert & beverage. Free will donation. (217) 455-3283

Zion Church Annual Chicken Dinner

Nov. 11 (11am-2pm), Chicken, dressing, homemade noodles, mashed potatoes & gravy, roll & dessert. Carryouts available. Adults: \$7 in advance, \$7.50 at the door. Ages 6-12: \$3. Under 5: Free. (217) 936-3250.

FREE

Town-wide yard sales, concerts, car shows, craft shows, parades, festivals, plays, fairs, special sporting events, benefits, activities for children, bake sales, demonstrations, or something else? Tell us about it! Space permitting

Event Listings

Deadlines:

Dec/Jan Events.....Nov 1	April Events.....Mar 1
February Events.....Jan 1	May Events.....April 1
March Events.....Feb 1	June Events.....May 1

Send event title, date(s), time(s), address, town, brief description, cost (if any), and contact phone #.

Mail to: Attn: Laura, Adams Electric, PO Box 247, Camp Point, IL 62320 or Call: (800) 232-4797

Country Treasures Holiday Craft Show

Nov. 16-18, Oakley Lindsay Center, Quincy. Over 100 booths of handcrafted items including ornaments, personalized items, home decor, etc. (217) 223-1000

Quincy Service League Holiday Gift Show & Sale

Nov. 17-18, Quincy Senior High School. Over 100 booths of great Christmas gifts, decorations & home decor. (217) 223-1000

Turkey Dinner

Nov. 18 (11am-2pm), St. Brigid's Hall, Liberty. Turkey, dressing, real mashed potatoes, vegetable, special apple salad, pie and drink served buffet-style. Handicapped accessible. (217) 645-3680

Quincy Family YMCA Turkey Run

Nov. 22 (8:30am), Quincy Family YMCA. 28th Annual Thanksgiving Day Race. 1 mi. walk, 5K run or walk & 10K run. (217) 222-9622

Avenue of Lights

Thanksgiving Day thru New Year's Day (6-9:30pm), Wavering/Moorman Park on North 36th St., Quincy. 2-mile animated light display. Cost: \$6/vehicle. (217) 222-7980

'Tis The Season: Wreath Decorating

Nov. 27 (6-7pm), 515 York, Qcy. Gloria Rodenberg, Stampin' Up demonstrator will show participants how to embellish their own store-bought wreaths with just a few scrapbooking tools. Learn how to stamp & decorate with paper & ribbon. Bring your own plain, undecorated wreaths to embellish. Free but reservations required. (217) 223-1309 x207

Operation Reindeer

Nov. 28-Dec. 2, Quincy Mall. Reindeer exhibit, craft corner, Santa's treats, gingerbread display Nov. 30-Dec. 2. Presented by Encore. (217) 222-1231

Scrooge, The Stingiest Man in Town

Nov. 29-Dec. 2 & Dec. 5-9, Oakley Lindsay Center, Qcy. (217) 222-3209

Journey to Bethlehem

Nov. 29, 30, Dec. 1, 2, 6-9 (5:30-9pm), 48th & Maine, Quincy. Bring the entire family to this outdoor, live portrayal of the story of Christmas. Free admission, refreshments served. (217) 224-6374

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3024 Broadway, Quincy



Solar Energy: Not quite ready for prime time

by Doug Rye, the "Doctor of Energy Efficiency"
- the King of Caulk and Talk

Mention solar energy and immediately everyone is interested. I have personally been responsible for the installation of several thousand solar systems, all of them in the 1980s. They were installed in homes to heat water only.

These systems were somewhat expensive but had paybacks of about 15 years, which was okay, but not great. For all practical purposes, the sales of these systems ceased when the \$2,000 tax credit was eliminated. For a number of years, very little was mentioned about solar energy.

I remember well the day that I stopped recommending solar systems. It was after I learned about geothermal, which is about three fourths or 75 percent solar. You see, I knew that solar was expensive and I also knew that the sun didn't shine much at night. Smart, huh?

I also know that usable solar radiation occurs only at about 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., even on a perfect sunny day. So, basically you have no usable solar for about three fourths of every day. Well, contrast that with geothermal, which provides solar BTUs 24 hours of every single day. And it provides energy for not only hot water but also heating and cooling. A no brainer, right? I thought so.

I am NOT against conventional solar energy but neither am I what they call an impulsive shopper. Display items near the cash register do not tempt me (unless they have to do with fishing). I can walk by a solar photo voltaic system at a home show and simply think - "Nice display. I only wish it were feasible."

The following are actual calculations for a 4,000-square-foot new house in Colorado. The family had been to a home show and met the solar salesman and were positive that they should spend an additional \$20,000 to install a 600-square-foot solar panel on their roof to generate 2 kilowatts (2000 watts) of electricity. That would be enough generation to provide the electricity for 20 100-watt light bulbs or two good hair dryers. I'll bet that all of you now know where I'm going with this topic. Would you advise your children to buy something that cost \$20,000 if it took 51.44 years to pay for itself? And the item was expected to last only 20 years? I think most of us would agree that is not a good investment.

The family was quite surprised with the calculations and was also surprised at how much space they needed for storage batteries, etc., with the solar system. Then the

family was shown the calculations of a new geothermal system, which provides heating, cooling and hot water, every day and night. And keep in mind - geothermal systems do use solar panels. They operate by using a one-inch pipe buried in the ground, which borrows solar BTUs in the earth in the winter and returns them in the summer. It's so neat to have the largest solar collector in the world, which is Mother Earth herself.

For this particular house, the average geothermal system cost about \$15,000 more than a regular heating and air system and has a payback in energy savings of nine years or less. I would and do advise my children to do exactly that, just like I have done. Geothermal requires no outdoor equipment, no batteries and has less maintenance and works 24/7. It is the most energy-efficient heating and cooling system available. Plus, a properly installed system creates a very comfortable environment in your home. Like I said before, I am not against solar. I just want our readers to know the truth. It just isn't ready for prime time yet.

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Call Adams Electric at (217) 593-7701

Doug Rye, a licensed architect living in Saline County and the popular host of the "Home Remedies" radio show, works as a consultant for the Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas to promote energy efficiency to cooperative members statewide. To order Doug's video, call Doug at 1-888-Doug-Rye. More energy-efficiency tips can also be found at www.ecark.org. Source: Rural Arkansas Magazine

Handmade

Ornament Contest



Help us
decorate
the Co-op
Christmas
tree and
**YOU
COULD
WIN!**



Adams Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Rules for Entering

Ornaments must be handmade by the entrant and prepared for hanging on the Cooperative's Christmas tree in the lobby. There is no theme; just be creative!

Prize: One overall winner will be chosen from all entries received. Entries will be judged on creativity.

Winner will receive a \$30 gift card to Wal-Mart.

Eligibility: The contest is open to all Adams Electric Cooperative members including their immediate family members (any age). One entry per person. Employees of Adams Electric Cooperative are not eligible.

Instructions for submitting entry: Please include your name, address, and daytime phone number on a sheet of paper separate from your entry. (Entries will be numbered for judging.) Entries will not be returned.

Please drop off your entry at Adams Electric Cooperative, located at 700 E. Wood St. or mail your entry to:
Ornament Contest
Adams Electric Cooperative
P.O. Box 247
Camp Point, IL 62320

Deadline: Entries must be received no later than **Friday, December 7, 2007**. Winner will be announced Friday, December 14.