Cooperative annual meeting just around the corner

You do not want to miss your cooperative’s 81st Annual Meeting of Members to be held Friday, June 7, 2019 at the Shelby County 4-H Fairgrounds. In addition to the Hood Family Band returning to entertain the crowd, Live Line Demo, Inc. will also be back to perform electrical safety demonstrations in the 4-H Show Arena. Look for your annual meeting notice to arrive in the mail later this month providing more information and details about this year’s meeting.

The notice will contain information about the cooperative, a meeting agenda, and important registration information. Members who register at the meeting will receive a $10 bill credit. If you bring your registration card with you and present it at the time of registration, you will receive an $11 bill credit.

Free blood pressure checks, bucket truck rides, a bounce house, the Shelbyville Fire Department smoke house, AirEvac Lifeteam helicopter, and much more will be available. Sunshyne the Clown, Tim the Twister, and Paddi’s Air Filled Fun will be making return appearances to entertain our younger members.

A barbecue pork chop dinner, prepared by the Shelby County Pork Producers, will be served between 10:30 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. Registration begins at 10:30 a.m. and the business meeting starts at 1:00 p.m. in the 4-H Center.

See you Friday, June 7 at the Shelby County 4-H Fairgrounds in Shelbyville for your cooperative’s 81st Annual Meeting.
Linemen advance

Two Shelby Electric Cooperative linemen were recently promoted. Nick Ray advanced to journeyman after successfully completing the apprenticeship program. Nick began working at the cooperative in 2013 and works out of the Taylorville outpost.

Dalton Brown advanced from apprentice lineman step 1 to step 2. Dalton started at the cooperative in 2016 and works out of the Shelbyville office.

Congratulations to both Nick and Dalton on your hard work and dedication to serving the consumer-members of Shelby Electric Cooperative.

Energy Efficiency
Tip of the Month

Avoid placing items like lamps and televisions near your air-conditioning thermostat. The thermostat senses heat from these appliances, which can cause the A/C to run longer than necessary.

Source: energy.gov
Congratulations on 25 years in business!

Shelby Energy Company, the cooperative’s LP gas subsidiary, opened its doors on April 4, 1994. Operations Manager Steve Shoaff, Office Manager Janet Orr, and Bulk Truck Driver Wayne Bunch helped get the new company off the ground. All three had previously worked for a local propane company, and hiring them brought instant credibility to Shelby Energy.

Their first customer was Roy Gill of rural Shelbyville. From there, the customer base rapidly grew to 500 accounts, and Jason Nohren was hired as a propane technician and driver. Continued growth over the years led to hiring Jim Miller as a third propane technician and driver in 2002.

In 2006, in partnership with Shelby Electric Cooperative, Shelby Energy began selling Generac whole-house generators to provide customers with peace of mind during outages. This partnership also helped the electric cooperative reduce peak demand through its residential interruptible rate. To date, Shelby Energy has sold over 1,000 generators, and the cooperative has over 300 members on the interruptible rate.

Following the untimely death of Wayne Bunch in 2007, Shelby Energy hired Larry Danneberger and purchased his bulk oil business.

By 2014, Shelby Energy Company had grown to over 2,000 customers. Steve Shoaff and Jim Miller retired; Jason Nohren was promoted to operations manager; and Jim Mundell and Derek West were hired as propane technicians and drivers. Janet Orr retired two years later, and Sarah McConnell was hired as her replacement.

The next time you see a Shelby Energy employee, wish them a VERY HAPPY 25th! Be sure to check out their website, www.shelbyenergyco.coop, and like their Facebook page @ShelbyEnergyCo.
As summer approaches, many people begin to think of relaxing and cooling off in the water. Water, however, can hide a silent killer. Electric current in the water has no visible signs. Electric shock drowning can happen when electricity escapes from its source, such as a dock, boat, pool, hot tub, or marina. Faulty wiring or equipment is often the culprit.

As little as 10 milliamps (1/50th of the current used by a 60-watt light bulb) can cause muscle paralysis. Sixty milliamps can cause heart failure. Electric shock drowning victims show no signs of burns. Therefore, many of these casualties are not recorded specifically as electric shock drownings but are included with the over 3,500 annual drownings in the United States.

The Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) recommends the following safety measures to prevent electric shock drowning.

- Never swim near docks that have an electrical supply.
- Avoid entering the water when loading or launching a boat.
- Maintain a distance of at least 10 feet between a boat and power lines.
- Never stand or swim in water when turning on/off electrical devices or switches.
- Pools and hot tubs should be at least 25 feet from power lines.
- All outlets within 20 feet of the water should have ground-fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) installed.
- Post electric shock warning/no swimming signs where electricity is used near water. Marinas and boat docks with electric supply are required by the National Electric Code to post these warnings!

If you see what could be an electric shock drowning, do not enter the water. Do follow these steps:

1. Turn off the power source at the breaker.
2. Throw a life ring.
3. Call 911.
4. Use only an insulated device, such as a fiberglass rescue crook, to attempt to rescue the victim from the water.

We want our members and their loved ones to have a safe and enjoyable summer. Taking a few precautions is well worth it and will allow your summer to be smooth sailing.

~Marla Pruemer,
Communication Specialist
Sources: SafeElectricity.org, esfi.org

Cooperative offices will be closed on Monday, May 27 in observance of Memorial Day.