Season’s Greetings

From the Directors and Employees of Shelby Electric Cooperative, Shelby DirecTV and Shelby Energy.
Stealing electricity has a negative impact on every member of the Cooperative and it will not be tolerated! Recently the Cooperative discovered that a member, who had been disconnected for non-payment, made an unauthorized connection to a source of power, (see pictures). This was dangerous to the person who made the connection and it was also against the law. Consequently, this person paid for the stolen electricity, disconnection fees, reconnection fees, a tampering fee and a large deposit. Additionally, this person was informed that any further tampering with Shelby Electric Cooperative meters or equipment will result in permanent termination of electric service. The Cooperative could also prosecute this individual under Section 17-20 of the Illinois Criminal Code, which makes such tampering or unauthorized connection a Class B misdemeanor, punishable by incarceration up to 6 months and a fine of $1,500.

When the power goes out…

ACT NOW and Save $200 Instantly

- Shelby Electric members purchase a Guardian generator before December 31, 2006 and receive an instant $200 rebate from the Cooperative.
- Shelby Electric members ask how you can save 15% on your energy charges. Some restrictions apply.

217-774-2311
Located on N. Route 128 across from Shelbyville High School.

Shelby Energy is a subsidiary of Shelby Electric Cooperative

...Life can go on.
Doug Rye Says:

As Shakespeare might say, “To seal or not seal, that is the question”

What does sealing a crawl space have to do with energy savings? Actually, a lot, as you’ll soon see. In fact, one of the most asked questions I get has to do with crawl spaces. It goes something like this. “Mr. Rye, how do I prevent moisture, mold and musty smells in my house’s crawl space?”

A common answer to this question is to add more foundation vents. But nothing could be further from the truth, my friends. If that was the answer you got, then the person who advised you simply didn’t know the facts. Now I’m assuming that you don’t have standing water under your house, which is another serious topic. (Call me if you have that problem.)

Twenty-five years ago, I was working with Steve Hudson, a geothermal system installer who lives in north Arkansas. Steve had previously introduced me to blower door testing of houses, which is the best way to determine the energy efficiency (or inefficiency) of a house. He had also been trying to convince me that we should be totally sealing crawl spaces and NOT installing foundation vents. I thought he was crazy.

I recall that the day was cold and snowy and he asked me if I would go to his house and look at his crawl space. I really wanted to head back home to Little Rock, but I agreed to go. We trekked through the snow to his house and opened the crawl space access door. Remember, it is cold and snowing, probably about 25 degrees. I will never forget what I saw. I expected to find a dark, damp dirt floor with no telling what growing on the ground, walls and floor joists. Instead, I was pleasantly surprised when he turned on a light, revealing clean white plastic on the ground and white cellulose insulation that had been sprayed on the foundation walls. Most importantly, the crawl space was as warm as toast and as dry as the desert.

My first thought was, ‘this is wonderful.’ My second thought was, ‘surely I can’t be wrong.’ Well, I was wrong. I started telling everyone about sealing up crawl spaces. And then everybody thought I was crazy.

One day it dawned on me that if a crawl space is sealed at the ground and it has no foundation vents, then it is really like a basement, only not as tall. So why not treat a crawl space just like it is a not-so-tall basement. It also dawned on me that most folks close their foundation vents in the winter. That rarely, if ever, causes a problem. Then they open the vents in the summer when the outdoor air is most humid. Moisture in the air always goes from warm to cool (like a glass of iced tea). Well, the crawl space is cooler than the hot humid air, which means that the warm moist air is trying to find a cold surface, like duct-work, floor joists or ground for condensation to occur. Read this closely now. Moisture in a crawl space comes from only three sources: the ground, outside air, or from a plumbing leak.

If you place heavy plastic on the ground, it will stop ground moisture (not standing water) from migrating into your crawl space. If you close or seal the foundation vents it prevents outside moisture from entering the crawl space. And if you don’t have a plumbing leak, you don’t have plumbing leak. BINGO. No moisture. No mold. No musty smell. A warmer floor in the winter. And, oh yes, as proven by research, a 10 to 20 percent savings on your heating and cooling costs. So, how exactly do you seal off the crawl space, you ask? I’ll give you specific details on that next month. In the meantime, feel free to call me at 501-653-7931 with any energy savings questions you may have.

Doug Rye, the “King of Caulk and Talk” can be heard on radio stations across the country, including Illinois, on his syndicated radio program “Home Remedies.” Visit his website www.DougRye.com, email him at info@philliprye.com or call him (888) Doug-Rye if you have questions or want more information.

Reprinted with permission from Doug Rye.
Member Exchange

For Sale

- 2003 Carri-Lite 5th wheel, excellent, like new condition, used 6 times, all standard features + 20 updates & options added, reduced $37,000; 2003 Silverado LT3500 4WD crew cab, Duramax Diesel 6600 V8 engine with Allison 5 speed automatic transmission, excellent condition, 6,000 miles, truck is used for hauling 5th wheel, reduced to $33,000. Call 217-774-2971.

- Just in time for Christmas, new items from Noah's Ark “Stuff-your-own” Animal workshop, lots of animals and separates to choose from, great activity for holiday parties, scouts, fund raisers or for individual gifts, just like Build-a-bear but we come to you. Call 217-774-1463.

- Equipment for WildBlue satellite Internet, includes wireless router, $150. Call 217-774-2971.

- George Foreman family size grill with bun warmer and 2 slice toaster, new still in box, $55; Dirt Devil Scorpion hand vacuum, new in box, $40; 0.6 cu.ft. Emerson microwave, new in box, all will make nice Christmas presents. Call Decatur 217-865-2062.

- 2006 Polaris Sportsman 700, camo, 4x4, EFI, used 24 hours, inc. back rack & receiver, excellent condition, listed new $8,400, priced $7,200 obo. Call 217-254-2482.

- Just in time for Christmas, two trainer RC planes with 2 trainer buddy radios, trainer cords, carrying containers for both planes, one is a right flyer 40T with magnesium 40 2-stroke motor, the other one is like the 40T with Super Tiger 2-stroke motor, both like new. Call 217-824-9258.

- 1951 BN Ford tractor, runs good, new battery, tires & radiator, 4-foot bush hog, rebuilt engine, 3-point hitch, $5,000; 1991 Sonoma pick-up truck, runs good, rebuilt motor, $1,800. Call 217-428-5714 or 217-201-5714.

- 2-acre corner lot, city water, mobile home 14 x 70, new furnace, air conditioner, water heater, $49,500. Call 217-459-2016.

- GT BMX bike, like new, 3-4 years old, $225; 8 year old Bach trumpet with case, $200; 4-year-old clarinet with case, $250; old antique iron stove, white, very heavy, make an offer. Call 217-325-4238.


- Firewood, cut and split, $35 a load, you haul. Call 217-644-3230.

- Heavy duty steel shelving, shelves on both sides, 8 foot sections, total of 32 running feet, $100 buys it all; Rainsoft reverse osmosis drinking water system, 4 filters, $100; new 4-wheeler, chains 10 inch v-bar four pair, $35. Call 217-768-4944.

- 2000 Hobie Cat Wave with trailer, great condition, $2,500; blue Rhode Gear “trail tail” bike, instant Tandem, 7 speed cog set, seat post hitch with adapters, quick release tire 24 x 1.75, less than 500 miles, $100; White Cannonite RT1000 Tandem, Shimano drive train-triple crank set, 9 speed cog set, rear derailor, DeoreXT, toe clip pedals, Magic wheel set, tandem tires 700 x 30c, shifter/brakes, Shimano 105 STi, rear rack Blackburn, Cateye computer, has less than 2,000 miles, includes Draftmaster tandem bike carrier, will carry two bicycles, fits 2” receiver. Call 217-824-2952.

- 1977 Bandit Trans Am, parting out: 1250 lb engine stand, $40; Chevy 230 motor, 40k miles, $125; Chevy 216 motor and 3 speed transmission, make offer; various other parts for 1949 Chevy truck. Call 217-259-6768.

- 7 geese, white & gray. Call 217-287-2564.

- Late 90’s M&M small slide-in Rodeo camper, shower, hot water heater, bunk beds with mattress, place for microwave, TV antenna hook up, curtains, closet and cabinet space, has jacks attached, $800 obo. Call 217-623-5723.

- Local honey, quart for $7; 12 oz. squeeze honey bear for $2.75; honeycomb, limited supply. Call 217-567-3655.

- Breakfast set, table with leaf and four wood chairs, $75. Call 217-325-3377.

- 1995 dark green Mitsubishi Eclipse, GS 4 cylinder, DOHC non-turbo, 250,000 miles, mostly highway, 28+ mpg highway, good condition, needs some maintenance, $2500 obo. Call 217-562-7191.

- (2) 10,000 BTU Comfort Glow vent free propane heaters, like new, $35 each; G.E. portable dishwasher, only used 1 year, has leak around door, call for details, $75 obo; Whirlpool 5000 BTU window air conditioner, works good, cosmetics OK, $30; Simmons queen size box spring and mattress set, dual comfort, half soft and half firm, in good condition, $75 obo. Call 217-254-9425.

- Roland KR7 electric piano, paid over $6,000, will sell for $3,500 obo, excellent instrument for church, light wood (Cherry), can have piano and organ sound simultaneously with many other instruments, as well, can add rhythms & instruments for contemporary choruses and hymns. I will demonstrate this instrument, has touch screen tutoring, visit www.Roland.com under KR2 for more info. Call 217-797-6746 or 217-620-0487.

- 32” 8-year old Roan stallion $200; also several weaning Shetland colts, several colors available, $150. Call 217-823-0362.

- Like new, used 1hp Black & Decker router, comes with 7 mostly new router bits and used combination router/saber saw table, $600. Call 217-895-2131.

- Bright wheat straw, $1.65 per bale; Alfalfa orchard grass hay, $2.50 per bale; Alfalfa, 3rd cutting, $3.50 per bale. Call 217-768-3828.

- Used, 10”, heavy duty, till bar table saw, comes complete with legs, two table extensions and 1 hp, belt driven capacitor AC motor, three used 10” carbide tipped blades and 1, 8 to 8-1/4 inch plywood blade is included, $150; an 8”, carbide tipped, adjustable Dado blade in almost new condition, if sold with saw $35, as a separate item, $50. Call 217-895-2131.

- Great for Christmas, Meade NG = 60 Telescope w/tripod & Star locator software, plus constellation kit, $100; elementary child’s school desk, $20; sturdy dog house for large dog, $50. Call 217-774-4605.

- Extendible rear view mirrors for John Deere Sound-Guard cabs, convex mirror measures 8” x 12”, provides wide angle view of implements behind the tractor, mirror telescopes from 22” to 36” by loosening plastic hand knob, collapsible for storage in tight areas, for use on two wheel drive and front wheel assist tractors only, new $109, in box, $75. Call 217-644-2634.


- 7 foot sofa, recliners on each end, hunter green with wood and metal trim on arms, very pretty, excellent condition, $250. Call 217-665-3419.


- Kenmore water heater, used less than 1 year, propane, 40 gallon, $75; Magic Chef refrigerator, 19 cu. ft., runs good, frost free, $100. Call 217-549-2145.

- MARCY by IMPEX weight system, 45 lb Olympic bar, 255 lb standard weights, flat/incline bench, military press, squat rack, preacher curl attachment, leg extension/leg curl attachment, EZ curl bar, 172 lb weights for EZ curl bar and leg curl attachment, 20 lb/25 lb/30 lb/35 lb dumbbells, rack for dumbbells, $800. Call 217-254-3785.


- Ethan Allen double dresser and desk, good condition $300; Whitetails men’s XL wool and leather jacket with european skull on back, never worn, $100; Tellcity Windsor arm rocker #618 1/2, walnut finish, $100; numerous new stuffed animals, tags still on, Flintstones, Looney tunes etc. $2 ea. Call 217-855-2521.

- Original black MTV jacket, some discolorization, $40. Call 217-774-4688.

- Two barrel shop heating stove, bricks in bottom, $30. Call 217-856-3879 after 6 p.m.

- Home grown pecans in the shell, $2 per pound. Call 217-682-5751.

*Continued on page 5
Keeping Your Christmas Tree Safe

The holiday season is often said to be “the most wonderful time of the year.” People are cheery, gifts are given and families gather together; but this magical time can quickly turn tragic if proper care is not given to Christmas tree safety.

Christmas Tree Fires

For many people, Christmas trees “make” the holiday. Unfortunately they also pose a great fire hazard. Each year more than 400 homes catch on fire because of Christmas trees. Tragically, nearly 40 deaths and at least 100 injuries result from those fires annually.

There are steps you can take to help prevent a Christmas tree fire. First, you should always choose a fresh tree. Select one that has green needles that are difficult to pluck from the branches. Another sign that you have a live, healthy tree is a bit of sticky sap on the trunk. Keep your tree healthy and alive by watering it regularly. As a tree dies, its needles will turn tan and become much more flammable. When the tree begins to lose a lot of needles, it is time to get rid of it.

If you use an artificial tree, make sure that it is labeled as fire resistant. If the artificial tree comes with lights already attached, make sure that it has the Underwriters Laboratory (UL) label, which means that it has been tested for safety.

Before you add lights to your tree, look for the UL label on the package. Check light strands for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires or loose connections. If the light strand is damaged, do not use it -- it’s not worth the risk. Be sure to you use indoor lights, not outdoor lights, to decorate your tree. And never use lighted candles on or near your tree.

Electrical fires are common during Christmas time. Avoid the tragedy by adhering to common sense rules. Don’t place the tree near electrical appliances or loose wires. Don’t overload extension cords with lights. Each extension cord should support no more than 3 strands of lights. Lastly, be sure to turn off all lights on trees and decorations when you go to bed or leave the house.

Tipping Trees

After fires, the only real tree-related hazard is a tree that falls over. To avoid this, place your tree in a low-traffic area. Use a tree stand that is the proper size to support a tree the size of yours. Secure it well into the base before beginning to decorate. While decorating, always use a step stool or ladder to reach high places. Many people have knocked their trees over while trying to place the star at the top. An incident like that can certainly ruin the magic of the moment!
Chocolate Kahlua Truffle Cookies

2 1/2 cups finely crushed chocolate cookie crumbs
1 cup finely chopped nuts
1 cup sifted powdered sugar
1/3 cup coffee liqueur
1 – 2 tablespoons water
5 oz. semisweet chocolate, chopped
1 tablespoon shortening

Directions:
In a large mixing bowl, stir together the chocolate wafer crumbs, chopped nuts, powdered sugar, and Kahlua or other liqueur. Add enough of the water so crumbs hold together. Shape mixture into 1-inch balls. Place on a waxed paper-lined cookie sheet. In a small, heavy saucepan, heat semisweet chocolate and shortening over low heat until melted. In another small, heavy saucepan, heat white baking bar until melted. With a fork, dip half of the cookies into the semisweet chocolate mixture to coat; place on cookie sheet. Dip remaining cookies in melted white baking bar to coat; place on cookie sheet. With the tip of a spoon, thinly drizzle white baking bar mixture in a zigzag pattern over cookies coated with semisweet chocolate. Repeat with semisweet chocolate, drizzling over cookies coated with white baking bar mixture. Refrigerate for about 30 minutes, or until chocolate is firm. Store in refrigerator.

Chocolate Snowball Cookies

3/4 cup unsalted butter
3/4 cup brown sugar, firmly packed
3 squares unsweetened chocolate, melted
1 egg
1 teaspoon vanilla
1/4 cup milk
2 cup all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon baking soda
1 cup chopped nuts
Confectioners’ sugar

Directions:
Preheat oven to 350° F. Combine butter and brown sugar, beating at medium speed until light and fluffy. Add melted chocolate, egg, vanilla and milk, mixing well. Add remaining ingredients (except the confectioners’ sugar) and blend well. Chill dough 1 hour or until firm enough to shape into 1-inch balls, using a rounded teaspoonful for each. Place about 2 inches apart on ungreased baking sheet. Bake in center of oven for 8 to 10 minutes or 8 minutes for fudgier cookies (tops will be soft). Remove carefully from cookie sheet, roll immediately in confectioners’ sugar to thoroughly coat cookie. Cool on wire racks; roll again in confectioners’ sugar. Yields about 5 dozen 1-inch cookies.

Cherry Chocolate Kiss Cookies

1 cup powdered sugar
1 cup (2 sticks) butter, room temperature
2 teaspoons maraschino cherry juice
1/2 teaspoon almond extract
Red food coloring, just a few drops
2 1/4 cups flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup maraschino cherries, drained and chopped
48 chocolate kisses, unwrapped

Directions:
Preheat oven to 350° F. In large bowl, combine powdered sugar, butter, cherry juice, almond extract and food coloring; blend well. Lightly spoon flour into measuring cup; level off. Stir in flour and salt. Add cherries and mix well. Form dough into 1-inch balls. Place 2 inches apart on ungreased cookie sheets. Bake in preheated oven 8 to 10 minutes or until lightly brown around edges. Immediately top each cookie with a chocolate kiss. Remove from cookie sheets and cool. Makes 48 cookies.

Super Simple Cranberry Sugar Cookies

1 15.6-oz. package Pillsbury Cranberry Quick Bread & Muffin Mix
3/4 cup butter, softened
3 tablespoon sugar

Directions:
Heat oven to 350° F. In large bowl, combine quick bread mix and butter; mix well. Shape dough into 1-inch balls. Place 2 inches apart on ungreased cookie sheets. Flatten balls to 1/8-inch thickness with bottom of glass dipped in sugar. Bake at 350° F for 9 to 11 minutes or until golden brown. Cool 2 minutes; remove from cookie sheets. Makes 3 1/2 dozen cookies.
Approximately 400 Shelby Energy customers enjoyed a complimentary barbeque-style lunch Saturday, Oct. 14, during the Customer Appreciation Day. During lunch, customers entered a drawing for a chance to win some Shelby Energy dollars. These dollars are good for any Shelby Energy product.

The grand prize winner was Barbara Weeden of Strasburg who won $100 Shelby Energy Dollars. Other winners included:

**$50 WINNERS:**
- Linda Kneller of Shelbyville
- Cliff Collett of Shelbyville
- Dave White of Shelbyville
- Genevieve Weakly of Westervelt

**$25 WINNERS:**
- Jr. Rodman of Findlay
- Roy Eigsti of Shelbyville
- Tom Rowland of Nokomis
- Nita Abel of Windsor
- Eric Matheny of Shelbyville
- Jeanne Shumard of Stewardson

Wal-Mart is putting the finishing touches on their 100,000 square-foot supercenter located in Shelbyville. According to Store Manager Ken Wamble, final preparations to finish the store are scheduled to take place in December. They are planning on opening up early 2007.

Shelby Electric Cooperative is a not-for-profit, consumer-owned organization committed to providing the best possible service at the lowest possible price. Since the Cooperative is a not-for-profit, at-cost electric provider, any revenue over and above expenses is eventually returned to the members in the form of a capital credit or patronage capital. Allocations are based on the patron’s proportionate contributions to the margins realized. More than $800,000 in capital credit distributions or retirements have been made since 2001.

James E. Coleman, President and CEO of Shelby Electric Cooperative and the Board of Directors of Shelby Electric Cooperative are pleased to announce that the Cooperative will be returning $420,000 in capital credits to cooperative members who received and paid for electric service from the Cooperative in the years 1968 and 1969. The distribution in 2006 will bring total capital credit distributions, since 2001, to $1.2 million.

If an individual who paid bills to the Cooperative during the years 1968 and 1969 and is still an active member of the Cooperative, they will receive a credit on their electric bill. Credits were issued on bills finalized Nov. 22 and also on bills finalized Dec. 1. If someone is no longer a member of Shelby Electric Cooperative, the Cooperative will make every reasonable effort to contact that person. Former members of the Cooperative, who received electric service from Shelby Electric Cooperative in 1968 and 1969 are encouraged to contact the Cooperative and provide updated contact information.
### Outage Report – October 2006

#### Individual Outages:

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<td>Taylorville</td>
<td>VS</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/26/06</td>
<td>1.10</td>
<td>Pana</td>
<td>Planned work</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/27/06</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>Lakewood</td>
<td>Transformer</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/28/06</td>
<td>2.20</td>
<td>Moweaqua</td>
<td>Vehicles</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/29/06</td>
<td>0.52</td>
<td>Richland</td>
<td>Animal/bird</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/31/06</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>Neoga</td>
<td>Planned work</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Substation Outages:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Substation</th>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>Members Affected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10/20/06</td>
<td>1.30</td>
<td>Elwin</td>
<td>Vehicles</td>
<td>519</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/20/06</td>
<td>2.45</td>
<td>Blue Mound</td>
<td>Vehicles</td>
<td>578</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Offi ce Closed**

Shelby Electric Cooperative offices will be closed Monday, Dec. 25 and Tuesday, Dec. 26 to celebrate Christmas and Monday, Jan. 1, 2007, for New Year’s Day.

**SHELBY News**

A publication of Shelby Electric Cooperative

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