**Shelby Electric Cooperative Member to Head Cooperative State Association**

Former State Senator and long time cooperative member N. Duane Noland begins his new job as the President and CEO for the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC) based in Springfield, Illinois this month.

The AIEC represents 24 electric distribution cooperatives, of which Shelby Electric Cooperative (SEC) is a member, two generation and transmission cooperatives and six telephone cooperatives.

Mr. Noland, whose family has been members of Shelby Electric Cooperative since 1951, serves as Vice-President of Noland Farms, a Centennial family farm in Macon and Christian Counties. His family still resides in rural Blue Mound. He says his family will maintain strong roots in the region.

“We are proud to have Mr. Noland as our statewide leader,” said Shelby Electric Cooperative Board Chairman Darrell Shumard. “He embodies the core principles of Cooperatives; Integrity, Innovation, Accountability and Commitment to Community. I know Duane will work hard with cooperative leaders to meet the ongoing challenges.

He has a proven track record of service to rural Illinois,” added Shumard. Chairman Shumard sits on the AIEC Board and was part of the hiring process along with the other AIEC board members.

An active civic and agricultural leader, Noland has served on the board of directors of organizations such as Millikin University, Decatur Memorial Hospital, the Grain & Feed Association of Illinois, Macon County Farm Bureau Foundation, the American Red Cross and the Illinois Corn Growers Association.

He served as a state lawmaker from 1990 to 2003, including four terms in the Illinois House and two terms in the Illinois Senate. Noland did not seek re-election in 2002, due to legislative redistricting. Prior to accepting his new position, Noland served as Vice-President of Hickory Point Bank and Trust.

He is replacing retiring President/CEO Earl Struck who served 27 years at the AIEC, previously as their Director of Government Relations before taking the CEO’s position in February 1994. “I congratulate the AIEC board of directors on the wise decision they’ve made in hiring...”
Halbrook Auto Body Shines in New Energy Efficient Facility

Facility to be featured in a January 18, 2006 Webcast

In 1987 Halbrook Auto Body opened for business in Shelbyville, Illinois. The one-man shop soon became well-known and business continued to grow. Brian Halbrook now has six full-time employees and one part-timer. However, his successful growth called for more than just additional manpower; he needed a new location to accommodate the number of vehicles repaired on a daily basis. On Sept. 1, 2005 Halbrook opened for business in his new facility on the west side of Shelbyville on Route 16.

When he first decided to open a larger facility not only did Halbrook need help from Shelby Electric line crews for his electrical service, he also wanted to discuss ways he could minimize his energy use while keeping his shop a healthy and comfortable place to work. Taking his needs into consideration, Chris Spears, Member and Public Services Manager, suggested Halbrook contact the Small Business Smart Energy Program’s Smart Energy Design Assistance Center (SEDAC) team to see if its free technical assistance services could improve on his new building’s design. Building envelope, lighting and HVAC energy savings measures were evaluated. The energy conservation measures that Halbrook installed into the 12,000 square foot facility will save him more than 12,042 kWh of electricity and 210 therms of natural gas annually. These savings will result in nearly $1,200 in annual cost savings just from making energy efficient improvements to his original design. Furthermore, these improvements will all pay for themselves in less than one year.

“l have been very pleased with the level of support provided to Halbrook Auto Body through the SEDAC and I would certainly recommend the program to others. It has never been as important as it is now to make sure that a building is designed to be energy efficient,” noted Spears. To be eligible, a business must be a for-profit business, with a facility that is larger than 8,000 square feet and/or have a minimum of $50,000 in annual utility costs. Facilities with multiple locations larger than 5,000 square feet will also be considered.

When asked about his thoughts on his efforts, Brian humbly replies, “We strive to get it right the first time in our business, and that’s what we’ve done for our building, too.”

For more information contact the SEDAC at (800) 214-7954, visit their Web site at www.sedac.org or email them at info@sedac.org. If you’re interested in the viewing the Web cast go to http://webcast.sedac.org for more information.
As energy costs rise, so does interest in energy efficiency

Well, folks, it has finally happened. Since 1975, I’ve been saying that America and the world would face a serious energy crisis in my lifetime. And I believe that time is now. Simply put, demand for fossil fuels is exceeding supply. This is evidenced by the rising prices of gasoline, natural gas and electricity. With energy costs increasing at alarming rates, it is not surprising that interest in energy efficiency is soaring as well. In fact, calls to my home office have doubled in recent months.

With natural gas bills expected to rise up to 30 percent this winter and with electric bills also on the rise, the most pressing question right now is: “How can I get through the winter without mortgaging my house to pay the heating bills?” Although I can’t do anything about the rising energy costs, I can give you some time-honored tips that will hopefully help you use less energy and, therefore, lower your bills.

So where do you start? First you must identify the problems in your home and I often say that the three biggest ones affecting the comfort and energy efficiency of your house are 1) air infiltration, 2) air infiltration, and, yes, you guessed it, 3) air infiltration.

The total air infiltration in an average house is the equivalent of having a door or window open every day of your life. Just think with me for a moment. If you can keep the cold air from getting in, it won’t take as much to heat your house, not to mention the fact that you would be a lot more comfortable in your home. So where does the air come in? Think of it this way. Anywhere an ant can get in, air can get in. Here are a few major problem areas:

- Cracks between the wood framing in your home’s walls.
- Around electrical receptacles and light switches in your house, even on interior walls. (When the north wind is blowing, go feel the electrical outlets and switches on your north wall.)
- Holes and leaks around your sink plumbing.
- Gas and fireplace flues.
- Recessed can lights that are not IC-rated. Between 3 and 10 cubic feet per minute of air will pass through one of these lights. A typical plastic garbage bag is 3 cubic feet. So that means that three garbage bags full of air can leak out of one of those lights every minute.
- Leakage in ductwork can be major. Leakage in the return air system of your heating/cooling unit can especially be a problem during the winter as it lets the cold air into your house. In the average house, gigantic amounts of air enter though this system.

If you have questions or want more information, send your questions to info@philliprye.com or call him (888) Doug-Rye if you have questions or want more information. Reprinted with permission from Doug Rye.
For Sale

- Male and Female Beagle puppies, full blooded, tri-color, 8 weeks old, shots and wormed, $100 each. Call (217) 768-3731 or (217) 620-0333.

- 1997 Ford Taurus, white, approximately 97,000 miles; 1996 Dodge Dakota pick-up, white, approximately 102,000 miles, both utility company owned with maintenance records, seller will accept sealed bids with a $2,250 minimum on each item through Jan. 31. Call (217) 235-0341 and ask for Russ or Debbie.

- Gas logs complete with oak mantel and hearth, controlled by thermostat, 38" x 38" x 15", $300. Call (217) 567-3170.

- 1980 IH grain truck, 6N71 Detroit diesel, ten speed Fuller transmission, twin screw, air brakes, 20 foot bed with tarp, cargo door, grain door, $15,000. Call Dave @ (217) 620-8766 or Ben @ (217) 665-3448.

- 97 GMC Safari, 135,000 miles, AWD, TV/VCR, power sofa, seats seven, radio w/cassette, runs good, $3,700 obo. Call (217) 774-1356 or (217) 825-5883, leave a message if no one answers.

- 1984 Chevy 3/4 ton pickup; 1985 1 ton pickup; 2- 800 MHz 2 way FM radios, hand held, charger, holster and adaptor mic; 2- 800 MHz, 2 way mobile radios. Call (217) 879-2753.

- Running boards for 2004-2005 Ford F150 extended cab, tan, fiberglass, includes brackets for mounting, barely used, $75. Call (217) 728-4408.

- Wooden dog house, 32x42x24-30, $60. Call (217) 649-7393.

- Firewood, 6' bed pick-up load, $45, 8' bed pick-up load $60, non-tiered. Call (217) 345-9776.

- Reverse osmosis 4 tank drinking water system, new at ½ price, $150; storm and screen entry door 30" x 6'6", aluminum with side lights, $30. Call (217) 348-8042.

- Six bundles of hardwood flooring, 2 ¼ x ¾ unfinished, Red Oak #1 common, approximately enough for 120 sq ft, $2/sq ft. Call (217) 252-6655.

- 1993 Chevy pick-up, loaded, great condition, over 200,000 highway miles, $2,900 obo, will trade. Call (217) 254-0856 or (217) 856-2233.

- 1000 gallon steel fuel tank, $400; 1988 Dodge ½ ton pick-up, runs and looks good, $1,500. Call (217) 895-3249.

- 2002 Gulfstream Innsbruck Supreme 26' 5th wheel camper, like new, supreme package, lots of extras, 8' slide-out, $18,500. Call (217) 783-2766.

- 2 bottom Dearborn Plow, good shape, kept in shed, $250; Gravity flow Oliver bed, only $150; 6 row Oliver cultivator, $100. Call (217) 549-4306 after 6 pm.

- Used corn planter plates, IH, JD & AC, various sizes & quantities, good shape. Call (217) 549-4306 after 6 pm.


- Water pump 1/2 hp, Myers brand, two years old; reservoir bladder tank, ACE brand, 1-1/2 years old, tank is 20" tall and 14 round, water filter, they are all in excellent condition, asking $150 for both. Call (217) 774-5326 if no answer, please leave message.

- 2001 Yamaha YZF426, blue and black, tag bars, White Brothers exhaust, K & N air filter, excellent condition, very strong, very fast, adult ridden, $2,500 obo. Call (217) 273-2034 between 7:30 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. and ask for Josh.

- 1983 Starcraft pop-up camper, sleeps 4-5, double bed at one end and a twin at the other end, table makes into a bed, propane stove, storage, table and bench seating, all new wiring and electric, good title, transfer of title and sticker costs $81, asking $400, can be seen at 2652 W Paradise Rd, Mattoon. Call (217) 895-3236 and ask for Tammy or (217) 235-0404 and ask for Mary.

- Outdoor flying insect electrocutor, 20 watt, ½ acre, $20. Call (217) 235-2993.

- Dining room set with lighted hutch and table with 2 leaves four chairs, oak finish, like new condition, must sell, $75. Call (217) 728-4408.

- Wurlitzer spinet piano, excellent condition, $1,250; 1999 Cadillac STS, one owner, exec driven, excellent condition, 150,000 miles, $7,950. Call (217) 345-2272 evenings.

- Bassett hound puppies, black and white, ready beginning 12/19/05, $300. Call (217) 234-2568.

Where can you find Yamaha surround sound systems?
If you have items to list, please send them to: Member Exchange P.O. Box 560, Shelbyville, IL 62565 or P.O. Box 709, Mattoon, IL 61938

**Wanted**

- Looking to buy toy farm tractors, any brand or condition, one item or a whole collection. Call (217) 824-9460 or email baileyauction@hotmail.com.
- Four row, 30 inch IH corn head. Call (217) 752-6794.

**Rental**

- To mature couple, small home close to Route 16 & Shelbyville, no pets, deposit required. Call (217) 567-3242.
Stuffed Mushrooms
Prep Time: 15 min
Total Time: 35 min
Makes: 8 servings, 2 mushrooms each

2 cups Stove Top Stuffing Mix
1 cup hot water
16 large mushrooms (about 1 lb.)
3 Tbsp. butter or margarine
1/2 of a small green pepper,
finely chopped
1/2 of a small red pepper,
finely chopped
2 Tbsp. butter or margarine, melted

PREHEAT broiler. Mix stuffing mix and hot water in medium bowl; cover. Let stand 5 min.

REMOVE stems from mushrooms; chop stems. Cook and stir mushroom caps in 3 Tbsp. butter in large skillet until lightly browned. Arrange in shallow baking dish.

ADD stems and peppers to skillet; cook and stir until tender. Stir into stuffing. Spoon into mushroom caps; drizzle with 2 Tbsp. melted butter.

BROIL 5 to 7 inches from heat 5 min. or until heated through.

Celebration Crostini
Prep Time: 10 min
Total Time: 13 min
Makes: 24 servings, 1 piece each

1 loaf (12 inch) French bread,
cut into 1/2-inch-thick slices
1/2 cup Kraft Free Honey Dijon
Fat Free Dressing
2 pkg. (6 oz. each) Oscar Mayer Fat Free Oven Roasted Turkey Breast
1-1/2 cups shredded Cracker Barrel 2% Milk Reduced Fat Sharp Cheddar Cheese
1/3 cup Claussen Sweet
Pickle Relish

PLACE bread slices in single layer on baking sheet. Lightly spray bread with cooking spray. Bake at 350°F for 5 minutes or until golden brown. Cool.

SPREAD each bread slice with 1 tsp. dressing. Fold each turkey slice in half, then into thirds to form triangle; place 1 on each toast slice. Sprinkle with cheese. Top each with 1/4 tsp. relish.

BROIL 4 inches from heat 3 minutes or until cheese is melted.

Pear & Smoky Swiss Appetizer
Prep Time: 5 min
Total Time: 5 min
Makes: 12 servings, 1 topped cracker each

12 Triscuit Crackers
1 medium pear,
cut into 12 thin slices
6 oz. Kraft Hickory Smoked
Pasteurized Process Swiss and
Cheddar Cheese,
cut into 12 thin slices
2 Tbsp. apricot preserves

TOP each cracker with 1 pear slice,
1 cheese slice and 1/2 tsp. preserves.

Mexicali Appetizer Meatballs
Prep Time: 30 min
Total Time: 45 min
Makes: 16 servings, 2 meatballs each

2/3 cup A.1. Original Steak Sauce
2/3 cup Taco Bell Home Originals
Thick ‘N Chunky Salsa
1-1/2 lb. ground beef
1 egg
1/2 cup dry bread crumbs

PREHEAT oven to 425°F. Mix steak sauce and salsa.

MIX meat, egg, bread crumbs and 1/3 cup of the steak sauce mixture just until blended. Shape into 32 meatballs, each about 1-1/4 inches in diameter. Place in single layer in shallow baking pan.

BAKE 12 to 15 minutes or until cooked through. Serve remaining steak sauce mixture as a dip for the meatballs.

No-Bake Classic Snack Mix
Prep Time: 10 min
Total Time: 13 min
Makes: 14 servings, 1/2 cup each

3 cups Post Spoon Size Shredded Wheat Cereal
2 cups popped popcorn
1 cup small pretzels
1/2 cup Planters Cocktail Peanuts
1 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce
1/2 tsp. seasoned salt

TOSS cereal with popcorn, pretzels and peanuts in large microwavable bowl.

MIX butter, Worcestershire sauce and seasoned salt until well blended. Drizzle evenly over cereal mixture; toss to coat.

MICROWAVE on HIGH 2 to 3 min. or until cereal is crisp, stirring after 2 min.
Fulfilling A High School Dream

Operations Superintendent Butch Walden will retire from the cooperative in January 2006.

What did you want to be when you grew up? A baseball player? An astronaut? A fireman? Or maybe even a doctor? For Butch Walden it could have been all the above, but he did know he wanted to be a lineman for Shelby Electric Cooperative when he graduated from Shelbyville High School back in 1961. “I always wanted to work for the cooperative,” remembers Walden. He got that wish on Nov. 16, 1966, when W.L. “Lefty” Walker hired him as a groundman. Even though he wasn’t around when the first lines were built back in the 1938, he still helped build quite a bit of distribution and transmission line as new substations were added to the system. “We didn’t have bucket trucks during the building of three phase line out of the Pana sub so we still climbed the poles back then,” notes Butch.

He worked as a welder for Oliver Company in Shelbyville and helped his dad farm before Shelby Electric hired him. Butch worked his way through many positions on his way to Operations Superintendent. He moved from groundman, to construction crew and then to maintenance. From there he moved back to the construction crew as a Construction Supervisor in 1990 before moving to his current position as Operations Superintendent in 1999.

Butch served under “Lefty” Walker, Bill LeCrone and current President and CEO, James Coleman.

“I can’t put into words what this place has meant to me and my family over the years and the people I’ve been able to work with and for,” says Walden. “This place and these people are an extension of my family.”

Throughout my interview with Butch, several fellow employees popped in and out of his office to share their stories. Donna Stretch, Operations Assistant, has shared the operations office with Butch for six years and said, “Butch has been a great person to work with, and we have gotten along great over the years; all the employees like him. He is also great with the members.”

A co-op career that totals 40 years and three managers has enough stories and memories that could fill up a book and there is not enough room to share all of them. One thing that stood out in Butch’s mind was the 1967 ice storm because at that time they didn’t have bucket trucks to repair the system. He also mentioned the ice storm of 1978 on Good Friday took 14 days of 16 hours per day to get the power restored. Of the many Butch stories that were told many of them can’t be repeated. “Butch was a practical joker, always playing pranks or jokes on people for a laugh,” says long-time friend Bill Shoaff, Construction Superintendent at the cooperative. “He liked to get you but he hated it when the pranks were played on him.”

What lies ahead for Butch after cooperative life besides watching Cardinal baseball games and golfing with his grandson Lee? Spending time with his wife, Carol, and their son Tony and daughter-in-law, Debbie, and two grandsons Cody, 17, and Lee, 15, who live in Charleston; and their daughter Beth, and son-in-law Ryan Musser and grandson Gunner, 3, and granddaughter Kinzee, 3 months.

“I want to express my sincere thanks to Butch for his many years of devoted service to the members of Shelby Electric Cooperative. We will surely miss Butch and his extensive experience. At the same time I want to express our blessings and truest hope that he and Carol celebrate many years of happy retirement together,” noted Jim Coleman, Shelby Electric Cooperative President & CEO.

Good luck and best wishes, Butch, from your family, friends and co-workers.

Walden, right, poses with Bennie Clawson next to “Ole Number 9” back in 1986.

Former Congressman, Glen Poshard, visits with Butch Walden during the 1995 Legislative conference in Washington DC.

Always a big kid at heart, Butch took time to tell Santa what he wanted for Christmas during the 2004 “Angel of Love” gift distribution.

An avid Cardinal baseball fan, Butch (left) is seen here paying off a friendly wager with the then cooperative manager and Cub fan Bill LeCrone (seated) when the Cubs won the Central Division in 1984. Fellow Cub fan Bill Shoaff looks on.
### Outage Report – November 2005

#### Individual Outages:

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**Santa’s Helpers**

Employees from Shelby Electric Cooperative provided plenty of help for Santa Claus when they helped deliver the Angel of Love gifts early Saturday Morning on December 17, 2005. The Coop employees along with other area volunteers were treated to a biscuit and gravy breakfast before heading out to deliver gifts to area children. Helping out for the 2005 Angel of Love deliveries from Shelby Electric were: pictured front row, L-R, Jamie Sharp, Chris Spears, unidentified person, Bill Shoff, Butch Walden, Steve Shoff, Jim Miller & Terry Oldham. Back row, L-R, Matt Clark, Roger Jones, Blake Knearem, Cary Bryson, Larry Nohren, Doug Hall & Brian Chevalier. Not pictured Kevin Bernson.

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The office will be closed Monday, Jan. 2 to celebrate the New Year.

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**Shelby News**

A publication of Shelby Electric Cooperative

PO. BOX 560
Shelbyville, IL 62565
217/774-3986