Area Students Spend Day in Springfield

Rep. Robert Flider met with 16 students representing Shelby Electric Cooperative during the Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperatives Youth Day on Wednesday, April 1, in Springfield. Students had an opportunity to view state government in action and tour the State Capitol, Illinois Supreme Court, Old State Capital and the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum.

The day was sponsored by the Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperatives and is designed to introduce young rural leaders to state government.

“We had a great time touring the historical sites, visiting the new Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum and talking with our area legislators,” said Adam Metzer of Pana. “We really appreciate Shelby Electric making this opportunity available to us,” said Katie Pieper of Stewardson.

Students also had the opportunity to visit with Senator Bill Brady, Senator Dale Righter and Senator Kyle McCarver.

Shelby Electric Cooperative is a member of Touchstone Energy® — an alliance of more than 680 local, consumer-owned electric utilities around the country. Shelby Electric is committed to providing superior service based on four core principles: integrity, accountability, innovation and commitment to community. The co-op serves more than 9,805 members over 2,233 miles of line in all or parts of Christian, Cumberland, Effingham, Fayette, Macon, Montgomery, Moultrie, Sangamon and Shelby counties. Visit them online at www.shelbyelectric.coop.
Two Area Students Selected to Attend Youth to Washington Tour

Zachary Letizia from Neoga High School and Katie Pieper from Stewardson-Strasburg High School were selected to represent Shelby Electric Cooperative in Washington D.C., June 12 through June 19, as part of the Illinois Electric Cooperatives Youth to Washington Tour. Letizia and Pieper were selected out of 16 students who attended the Illinois telephone and electric cooperative’s Youth Day trip to Springfield in April. Two alternates were also chosen, Boone Baker from Stewardson-Strasburg High School and Rhiannon Mahaffey from Cowden-Herrick High School.

### OUTAGE REPORT

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Visit us online at [www.shelbyelectric.coop](http://www.shelbyelectric.coop)
Electric Cooperative Members: 42 Million Strong

Your voice is needed now more than ever; let Congress know how you feel

When electric cooperatives began to spread across America 75 years ago, President Franklin D. Roosevelt emphasized that electricity in this country was no longer a luxury. It had become, as it is today, a necessity.

In these difficult economic times, a lot of Americans are struggling to make ends meet. As not-for-profit, consumer-owned and controlled electric co-ops, we want to make certain that each and every citizen in this country can continue to receive affordable electric power. We want to make certain we don’t step back from the commitment that FDR made.

Congress is currently working to address issues related to climate change and debating federal mandates regarding renewable energy development and energy efficiency. Even if Congress doesn’t act, the U.S. Supreme Court has given the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency a green light to put new rules curbing emissions of carbon dioxide from power plants in place.

As a result of these efforts, there’s little doubt electric bills are going to rise. The only question is whether higher electric bills will be kept affordable.

Electric co-ops are dealing with a very different situation than we have in the past. Electric bills will go up because of the climate change and energy policy decisions of U.S. senators and representatives on Capitol Hill—or worse, unelected federal bureaucrats. Higher electric bills will become the norm as we are all forced to comply with these government mandates.

At Shelby Electric Cooperative we’re talking to our members of Congress, trying to convince them to work with us to make sure that we not only deal with climate change, but do so in a way that keeps electric bills affordable. To accomplish this goal, we need your help.

Nationwide, 42 million consumers are served by electric cooperatives. If every co-op consumer would contact their senators and representatives, we could make a real impact on the final shape of any energy or climate change legislation.

Over the last year, electric co-op consumers have made their voices heard on keeping electric bills affordable through the Our Energy, Our Future™ grassroots awareness campaign. More than 1.6 million messages have been sent to Congress so far—you can add to that list by visiting www.shelbyelectric.coop and clicking on the “Our Energy Our Future” icon on the lower left hand corner of the landing page or stop by your cooperative office and they will help your voice be heard.

Make certain that those who lead us in Washington, D.C., hear from you today.

Shelby Electric Cooperative’s Offices will be closed Friday, July 3rd in observance of Independence Day

Energy Efficiency
Tip of the Month

Don’t keep your refrigerator or freezer too cold. Recommended temperatures are 37° to 40° F for the main refrigerator compartment and 5° F for the freezer. If you have a stand-alone freezer, it should be kept at 0° F. Appliance settings may vary, so an easy way to check the temperature is to use a meat thermometer.

Saving lives where the need is greatest.

As a member of your area Emergency Medical Services team, Air Evac Lifeteam is committed to improving the quality of life for those it services. Air Evac Lifeteam has remained true to its mission and first focus by:

- Providing air medical services to medically underserved areas of rural America;
- Taking an active role in the advancement of health care services in the communities it services;
- And, providing superior patient care and safe aviation.

Membership with Air Evac offers significant benefits. As one of over 760,000 members, Air Evac will work on your behalf with your benefits provider to secure payment for your flight. Whatever your benefits provider pays will be considered payment-in-full for your flight in a life or limb threatening emergency.

Become an Air Evac Lifeteam member through the Shelby Electric Cooperative monthly billing plan for only $5.00 per month per household.

Simply complete the application form on the next page and mail with your Shelby Electric Cooperative payment. That’s it! Send no money, you will be billed $5.00 on your current Shelby Electric Cooperative monthly bill. Or you can choose to receive $10.00 off the standard annual membership rate and send payment directly to Air Evac Lifeteam. It’s that easy!

For additional information about Air Evac Lifeteam

Contact your local Membership Coordinator

Roger Luer
(217) 690-6488
Air Evac Lifeteam Membership Registration – Shelby Electric Cooperative Billing Plan

By applying for membership, I agree to AEL’s terms and conditions. 

Initials: X 

Name as it appears on Electric Bill:

Mailing Address: ________________________________ Physical Address: ________________________________

City: __________________ State: __________ Zip: ________ County: __________________

Home Tel.: ____________________ Cell: ______________ Work Tel.: ____________________

Email: ________________________________ Your Date of Birth: ________________________________ Do you live in City Limits: Yes [ ] No [ ]

Shelby Electric Account Number: (if known)

Please List Others Living in Household and Date of Birth (other than yourself)

Name: __________________ Date of Birth: __________________

Name: __________________ Date of Birth: __________________

Name: __________________ Date of Birth: __________________

Terms and Conditions

Air Evac EMS, Inc. (Air Evac Lifeteam and Air Evac Great Lakes) ("AEL") offers memberships that provide protection against AEL ambulance costs that are not covered by a member’s insurance or Medicare benefits, subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. Transport by AEL helicopter to the closest appropriate medical facility for medical conditions that are deemed by an attending medical professional to be life- or limb-threatening or that result in permanent disability and which requires emergency helicopter transport. A patient’s medical condition, not membership status, will dictate whether or not air transportation is appropriate and required. Under all circumstances, AEL retains the sole right and responsibility for determining whether or not a patient is flown.

2. AEL services may not be available when requested due to factors beyond AEL’s control, such as weather, fuel availability, airports, weather or medical conditions, equipment malfunction, limited flight hours or equipment availability, government regulations, maintenance requirements, patient size or weather conditions. Federal Aviation Administration restrictions prohibit AEL from flying in inclement weather conditions. The primary determinant of whether to accept a flight is always the safety of the patient and medical flight crew.

3. Members who have insurance or other benefits that cover the cost of ambulance services are financially liable for the costs of services up to the limit of any available insurance or benefits coverage. In return for payment of the membership fee, AEL will consider all ambulance costs not covered by any insurance or benefits available to the member to have been fully prepaid. AEL reserves the right to bill directly the appropriate insurance or benefits provider for services rendered, and members authorize their insurer or benefits provider to pay any covered amounts to AEL directly. Members agree to enroll in AEL membership prior to requiring medical services provided by AEL, and to pay any regular charges. AEL is not an insurance company. AEL membership is not an insurance policy and cannot be considered as a secondary insurance coverage or a supplement to any insurance coverage. AEL will not be responsible for payment for services provided by another ambulance service.

4. Membership starts 30 days after AEL receives a completed application with full payment; however, the waiting period will be waived for unforeseen events occurring during each month. Memberships are non-refundable and non-transferable.

5. Some state laws prohibit Medicaid beneficiaries from being offered membership or being accepted into membership programs. By applying, members certify to AEL that they are not Medicaid beneficiaries.

6. These terms and conditions supersede all previous terms and conditions between a member and AEL, including any other writings or oral representations, relating to the terms and conditions of membership, which are superseded by this program.

I have read and understand the AEL Membership Terms and Conditions. The information provided on my application is complete and accurate. I authorize my insurer or benefits provider to pay any covered amounts to AEL directly. By signing this authorization I agree to the terms stated above and acknowledge that I authorized to have the additional $5.00 per month added to my residential electric account. I also understand that I will communicate directly with Air Evac Lifeteam for Membership Member Service.

Air Evac Lifeteam Membership Registration – Shelby Electric Cooperative Billing Plan

The price for an AEL household membership will be $5.00 per month

Name: ____________________________

Physical Address: ____________________________

Mailing Address: ____________________________

City: __________________ State:_________ Zip:  __________

Shelby Electric Account Number (if known)

Primary Tel.: ____________________________

Authorization to add $5.00 per month to Shelby Electric Cooperative invoice to pay monthly Air Evac Lifeteam fees.

The price for an AEL household membership will be $5.00 per month

- A member’s membership will be effective 15 calendar days after receipt by Shelby Electric Cooperative of the member’s first monthly Membership fee and will continue thereafter as long as monthly Membership fees are paid, but will terminate automatically without notice if no monthly Membership fee is received by AEL from member for a 60 calendar day period.

- A member may discontinue their AEL membership at any time by signing a discontinuation notice (as provided by AEL).

- Shelby Electric Cooperative and AEL are not affiliated. Shelby Electric Cooperative is not responsible for any of Shelby Electric Cooperative’s acts or omissions, and AEL is not responsible for any of Shelby Electric Cooperative’s acts or omissions. AEL membership relationships are directly between AEL and its members.

By signing this authorization I agree to the terms stated above and acknowledge that I authorized to have the additional $5.00 AEL fees added to my residential electric account. I also understand that I will communicate directly with Air Evac Lifeteam for Membership Member Service.

X Member Signature ____________________________

Name: ____________________________

Physical Address: ____________________________

Mailing Address: ____________________________

City: __________________ State:_________ Zip:  __________

Shelby Electric Account Number (if known)

Primary Tel.: ____________________________

Member and Payment Options (select one)

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Total 1st Payment Amount: $__________

Total Annual Recurring Amount: $__________

Signature: ____________________________

Bank Information (required for monthly membership option and automatic transfers from checking account)

Name on bank account: ____________________________

Routing number: ____________________________

Account number: ____________________________

Signature: ____________________________

Statement of Authorization: (select one) 

- Check or money order made payable to: Air Evac Lifeteam, PO Box 948, West Plains, MO 65775

- One Time transfer from checking account or credit card

- Recurring annual credit card payment or automatic transfer from checking account. Please make my recurring payment each year on this date:

  month / day / year

Signature: ____________________________

Member Signature: ____________________________

X Signature (required for recurring payment option)

PLAN CODE 1843

PLAN CODE 3108

ILLINOIS COUNTRY LIVING • June 2009
Words of Thanks From Troops Overseas

The Girl Scout Cookies for the Troops has ended and the final box of cookies were shipped out last month and Shelby Electric Cooperative would like to say THANK YOU to everyone who was involved in our Cookies for the Troops drive.

This year, a number of church youth groups, Girl Scouts and school aged children created thank you cards to be shipped with the cookies. This was an added bonus for our military personnel to receive besides the delicious Girl Scout cookies.

We also heard from several men and women who received the cookies and below are just a couple of comments Shelby Electric received.

“To everyone at Shelby Electric Cooperative and anyone else involved with sending us cookies here in Afghanistan, THANK YOU. It is always nice to see that there are so many people in the United States that support the soldiers here and in Iraq. It is because of people like you that we are able to be away from our families and do our job over here. I now need to head to the gym to work off all those cookies you sent us.” Thanks again, CPT David Pond.

“We recently received a care package from you and I wanted to send my personal THANKS for sending the Girl Scout cookies. It truly meant a lot to us and made accomplishing our mission that much easier having that extra snack available to keep us going and that means the world to us to hear from people like you. We also loved the cards that came with the cookies. Our unit is a CH-47D Chinook Helicopter detachment and we move soldiers, equipment fuel, etc. all over the battlefield.” Sincerely, Jason Rassi.

Shelby Electric Cooperative would also like to acknowledge the following Shelbyville Businesses for donating to the shipping costs! Fire Pro, Wal-Mart, Dairy Queen, Macari’s Service Center, Pro-Lawn, Monical’s Pizza and Edward Jones. A businessman who didn’t want identified also made a large donation.

“Without the broad support of the community and the local businesses this effort would not have the success it has had over the past four years,” said Kevin Bernson spokesman for Shelby Electric Cooperative. “We should also thank the cooperative board and management for supporting this community cause and especially employees, Phoebe Kates, Doug Hall and Debbie Carlen for their work getting the cookies boxed up and shipped out,” added Bernson.

Approximately 800 boxes of Girl Scout cookies were shipped out to Iraq and Afghanistan.
Shelby Electric Cooperative Participates in 2009 Safety Day

Over 375 fourth grade students and teachers descended upon the Shelby County Fairgrounds to participate in the 2009 Safety Day. The day was sponsored by Shelby County Ag Awareness and was designed to give each student an overview of various safety messages in a day-long event.

The Shelby County fourth graders participated in eight different safety areas; food and nutrition, sun, fire, chemical, water, first aid and electrical. The day began with a fire safety magic show put on by the Decatur Fire Department.

Lineman Matt Clark and Member Services Representative Marla Eversole treated each fourth grade class with a tabletop safety display. Clark explained that electricity is a great tool we all use and need but we need to respect it and be safe around it.

“We do this each year for the fourth graders in Shelby County with the hope that we can teach them in a way they can learn about safety but in a fun way,” said Ellen Trainor and Amy Rochkes who organized the day.

Clark and Lineman Roger Jones also put on a safety demonstration presentation on May 4 at a DARE picnic at Eagle Creek Resort in Findlay and Clark and Eversole presented on May 6 as part of Conservation Day at Hidden Springs.

Sunshine and summer breezes can help you save money and energy. Now is the time to get into the great habit of line-drying your laundry.

REAL LIFE APPLICATION:

My clothes dryer costs approximately 65 cents per hour to operate. If I used the dryer for just one hour a day, it adds up to about $20 per month ($240 per year). We have teenagers and we raise pigs. I do a lot of laundry! That $20 per month figure is conservative for my house - hold. If I can save $20 a month by cutting out one hour a day of using the dryer – to the clothesline I go!

Technology for clothes dryers has not changed significantly in the past several years. Shopping for an energy efficient model can be challenging as clothes dryers are not required to display EnergyGuide labels. Models do not vary much in the amount of energy consumed. One helpful feature to look for is a moisture sensor. Rather than drying laundry for a certain time period (possibly over-drying), the sensor monitors moisture in the laundry and will shut off the dryer when laundry is dry.

Please contact Marla Eversole, Member Services Representative, if you have questions about your energy use. (800)677-2612 or meversole@shelbyelectric.coop

Clothes Dryer Tips to Save $$ and Energy

- Locate your dryer in a heated space. Putting it in a cold, damp basement or unheated garage will make the dryer work harder and less efficiently.
- Make sure the dryer is vented properly. Use the shortest and straightest metal duct possible.
- Check the outside dryer exhaust vent periodically for blockages.
- Clean the lint filter in the dryer after every load.
- Dry only full loads.
- Dry clothing by similar weights and type of materials. There is no need to shake-n-bake lightweight items while waiting on towels to dry.
- Dry two or more loads in a row. This will take advantage of the dryer’s retained heat.
- Use the cool-down cycle to allow the laundry to finish drying with the residual heat in the dryer.
- Use natural resources and line dry!

Lyle Jefson learns what it is like to be a lineman as he tries on the gear Shelby Electric Cooperative linemen wear while they work on the lines. Jefson and 375 other Shelby County fourth graders learned how to be safe around electricity during Shelby County Safety Day in April. Pictured are Jefson and Marla Eversole Member Services Representative.
Instincts tell us to flee danger. Unfortunately, in vehicle accidents that bring down power lines, these natural inclinations can lead to tragic results.

If your car hits a power pole, or otherwise brings a power line down, Shelby Electric Cooperative and Safe Electricity urge you to stay inside the vehicle until help arrives. Getting out of the vehicle, with few exceptions, is the wrong thing to do until the line has been de-energized.

“You are almost always better off to stay in the car, especially if the line is in contact with the vehicle,” says Terry Oldham, Operations Superintendent for Shelby Electric Cooperative. “If the power line is still energized and you step outside, your body becomes the path for that electricity and electrocution is the tragic result.”

It is best to wait until Shelby Electric linemen arrive to make sure power to the line is cut off. The only exception would be if fire or other danger, like the smell of gasoline, is present. In that case, the proper action is to jump—not step—with both feet hitting the ground at the same time, as if doing a bunny hop. Jump clear, without touching the vehicle and ground at the same time. Shuffle or hop to safety keeping both feet together as you leave the area.

Even if a power line has landed on the ground, there is still the potential for the area near your car to be energized. Stay inside the vehicle unless there is fire or imminent risk of fire.

The same rules apply to situations involving large farm and construction equipment that come in contact with overhead lines. Those working with large equipment should stay inside the cab or remain in the vehicle if equipment extensions come in contact with power lines. Warn others who may be nearby to stay away and wait until the electric utility arrives to make sure power to the line is cut off.

While driving, if you encounter a down wire on the road, always assume it is an electrical wire and energized, and stay in your car. If you come upon, or witness an accident involving toppled power poles and lines, don’t leave your vehicle to approach the accident scene.

Often our inclination is to step in and help those in danger and offer assistance to the injured. But in accidents involving power poles, call for help. Wait for trained assistance to arrive, or you could become an additional victim in need of rescue.

Accidents and fires involving electricity cause more than a thousand deaths and tens of thousands of injuries each year. The vast majority are preventable if people understand the dangers and steps they can take to be safe around electricity.

For more electrical safety information, visit www.SafeElectricity.org or www.shelbyelectric.coop.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shelby Electric Cooperative</th>
<th>Shelby DirecTV &amp; PWR-net</th>
<th>Shelby Energy</th>
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<tr>
<td>1-800-677-2612</td>
<td>1-877-994-2323 weekdays</td>
<td>1-217-774-2311</td>
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<td>1-217-774-3986 24-hours-a-day</td>
<td>1-877-241-6605 after-hours for DirecTV only</td>
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