



Egyptian Electric News

1732 Finney Road • Murphysboro, IL 62966 • 800-606-1505 • eeca.coop

NOVEMBER 2023



Sixteen education scholarships available — apply today!

Illinois electric cooperatives will be awarding 16 educational scholarships to financially assist deserving students in the electric cooperative family. The 16 scholarships, \$2,000 each, will be awarded through the Thomas H. Moore Illinois Electric Cooperatives (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program.

"We are hopeful a student from our cooperative will be selected as a recipient this year," says Shane Hermetz, Executive Vice President/General Manager. "Egyptian Electric Cooperative and the other Illinois electric cooperatives are always seeking ways to make a difference in our communities. One of the best ways we can do that is by helping our youth and investing in them through programs like this one."

Ten (10) of the scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors who are the children of Illinois electric cooperative members receiving service from the cooperative.

Five (5) additional scholarships are reserved for high school seniors enrolling full-time at a two-year Illinois community college whose parents are Illinois electric cooperative members, employees or directors.

One (1) scholarship, the Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship, will be awarded to a high school senior who is the child of an Illinois electric cooperative employee or director.

The deadline to apply is Dec. 31, 2023. For more information regarding the scholarships, contact EECA Member Services Manager Brooke Guthman. All information has been

shared with area high school guidance counselors and is available online at eeca.coop. **Mark D. Prince**

APPLY ONLINE



<https://eeca.coop/community-youth-programs/iec-memorial-scholarships/>

VETERANS DAY

FRI, NOV 10

EMPLOYEE TRAINING

WED, NOV 15 (LOBBY ONLY)

THANKSGIVING

THUR, NOV 23 & FRI, NOV 24



Egyptian Electric
Cooperative Association
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1732 Finney Road
Murphysboro, IL 62966

Business hours/After hours
800-606-1505

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844-759-3977

Office hours 8 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. M-F
www.eeca.coop

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- Mail to: 1732 Finney Road, Murphysboro, IL 62966
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- Use SmartHub portal, online or mobile app
- By phone at 844-759-3977, using credit card or checking account
- Off-site kiosks located at 2301 N. Reed Station Parkway and 1815 W. Main in Carbondale

AIEC Lineworker's Safety Rodeo: Egyptian Electric Cooperative shines!

EECA lineworkers participated in the annual Lineworker's Safety Rodeo coordinated by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC) on Sept. 21. The rodeo highlights the skills lineworkers use to work safely and efficiently. Matt McElroy of Sparta, Andy Ahner of Carterville, and Mike Smith of Murphysboro represented EECA at the rodeo, held in Springfield.

They competed against teams from across Illinois in events using skills that focused on agility, speed and accuracy. While these skills are part of the judging criteria, participants are judged on safe work practices. Line personnel competed in team and individual events, such as the 40-foot climb, hurt man rescue, H-structure obstacle course and a head-to-head climbing challenge. Scores for each event are based on completion time, proper execution of the task and safety. Deductions are made to a team or individual's overall performance score due to mistakes such as slipping when climbing poles, dropping tools or executing inappropriate procedures or methods.

Despite fierce competition, the EECA team secured two first-place titles — the team pole top hurt man rescue and the team cutout change.

Mike Smith also brought home first place in the individual pole top rescue, second place in the 40-foot pole speed climb and was crowned the climbing challenge champion! Matt McElroy snagged a third-place finish in the individual hurt man rescue.

We have incredible talent and skill at EECA. Congratulations to our three lineworkers on their team and individual efforts!



Matt and Mike compete in the H-structure obstacle.



Thad France (left) presented Mike Smith with the 2023 Climbing Challenge Champion Award.



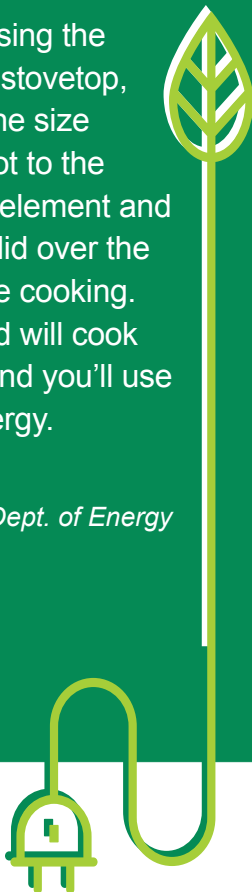
Matt McElroy, Andy Ahner, and Mike Smith proudly pose with all of their hardware after the 2023 AIEC Lineworker's Safety Rodeo.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

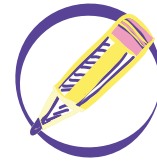
The holiday season is upon us, and that means we'll be using more energy in the kitchen. When possible, cook with smaller countertop appliances instead of the stovetop or oven. Smaller appliances like slow cookers, air fryers and Instant Pots consume less energy.

When using the oven or stovetop, match the size of the pot to the heating element and place a lid over the pot while cooking. The food will cook faster, and you'll use less energy.

Source: Dept. of Energy



Reminder



TEN \$500 CLASSROOM GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Applications due November 3
and can be found at eeeca.coop

As a local company, it is important for us, and also most beneficial to you, to have your most up-to-date mailing address, email and best phone number on file. Whether it be to ask an operational on-site question or internal billing question, we want to make sure you are kept in the loop on all communications!



If you've had any changes, please submit your most up-to-date information through SmartHub, our website (eeeca.coop), by emailing info@eeeca.coop or by calling us at (800) 606-1505.



Egyptian Electric
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MEMBER PRIZES

Every month we will have three member names hidden throughout our Egyptian Electric News section. If you find your name, call our office and identify yourself and the page that it is on and you will win a \$10 credit on your next electric bill.



Five ways to safeguard your home this winter

As the temperatures drop and the days grow shorter, there's a natural inclination to create a warm and cozy haven at home. Unfortunately, as we see increased use of heating equipment, candles and electrical items, the number of home fires tends to increase during winter months.

Here are five ways you can safeguard your home for the winter season.



- 1. Ensure carbon monoxide and smoke detectors are working properly.** If your detectors are battery-operated, replace the batteries annually. Test the detectors once a month and give them a good dusting to ensure the sensors are clear of dirt and debris.
- 2. Inspect electrical cords.** We depend on more cords during winter, whether for holiday lighting, extension cords or portable

heaters. Before using any corded items, double check to make sure cords aren't frayed or cracked. If you use portable space heaters, remember to keep them at least 3 feet away from flammable items. Use models that include an auto shut-off feature and overheat protection. Space heaters can take a toll on your energy bills. Use them efficiently (to heat smaller spaces) and safely. Never plug a space heater into a power strip. Speaking of power strips ...

- 3. Avoid overloading electrical outlets and power strips.** When overloaded with electrical items, outlets and power strips can overheat and catch fire. If you use power strips for multiple devices,



make sure the strip can handle the electrical load. For a safer bet, look for power strips that include surge protection.

- 4. Clean the fireplace to improve safety and efficiency.** There's nothing better than a warm fire on a chilly night, but it's important to maintain your fireplace for safety. As wood burns, a sticky substance known as creosote builds up in the chimney. When creosote buildup becomes too thick, a chimney fire can ignite. The chimney should be cleaned at least once a year to reduce fire risks. Regular cleaning also improves air flow and limits the amount of carbon monoxide that seeps indoors.

- 5. Practice safety in the kitchen.** As we spend more time in the kitchen during the holiday season, be mindful of potential fire hazards. Never leave food that's cooking on the stovetop unattended. Clean and remove spilled foods from cooking surfaces and be mindful of where you place flammable items like dish towels.

Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association wants you and your family to stay safe during the winter season.



Thomas H. Moore
Illinois Electric Cooperative

Memorial Scholarship Program

The Illinois Electric Cooperative (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program will be awarding 16 \$2,000 educational scholarships annually to deserving students in the “electric cooperative family” entering college to assist with educational costs. Deadline to apply is Dec. 31, 2023.

About the scholarships

10 scholarships are awarded to high school seniors who are children of an Illinois electric cooperative member receiving service from the cooperative.

5 scholarships are reserved for high school seniors enrolling full-time at a two-year Illinois community college who are children of Illinois electric cooperative members, employees or directors.

1 scholarship, the Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship, is awarded to a high school senior who is the child of an Illinois electric co-op employee or director.

For more information about the IEC Memorial Scholarships, please contact:

Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association
1732 Finney Road, Murphysboro, IL 62966
Phone: (800) 606-1505/Fax: (888) 544-8181
Brooke Guthman at bguthman@eeca.coop

To apply online visit:
<https://aiec.coop/iec-scholarship/>



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