



Annual meeting of the members

Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association (EECA) held our annual meeting on July 14 at EECA headquarters in Murphysboro. All registered members received a \$20 bill credit on their August bill. They were treated to live music by Bill Harper, live line demonstrations and hot dog dinner, drive-thru style. Members also had the choice to either listen to the meeting via radio broadcast or attend in open-air seating.

Board Treasurer Kevin Liefer explained how EECA ended 2021 with strong finances, higher revenue than in 2020 and lower total operating expenses.

Shane Hermetz, general manager, addressed the crowd to discuss industry supply chain and inflation challenges and the effect it has on the electric industry. He also talked about how the customers of investor-owned utilities are seeing increased rates this summer, but reminded EECA members of decreases they have received since 2020.

"In 2020, the residential rate for electricity was lowered by 1.9 percent and then again in April 2021 resulting in a 3.4 percent overall rate decrease," Hermetz said. "While we are contending with increasing costs and supply chain concerns, we are confident that we can maintain stable rates."

Board President Paul Pyatt welcomed members and reinforced that EECA ended 2021 on a strong note. "Finances remained strong throughout 2021 and keeping to our cooperative principles this year, we are refunding just over \$1M in capital credits to current and former members," Pyatt



said. **54-22-0017** He also said members will begin to see the co-op's first public electric vehicle charging stations.

Three men were re-elected to the board of directors – Kevin Bame of Murphysboro, Ken Jarrett of Jacob, and Kevin Liefer of Red Bud. All will serve new three-year terms.

At the close of the meeting, ten (10) names were drawn to receive \$1,000 scholarships to college or college-bound students who are EECA members or dependents of members. Scholarship winners were:

- Mollie Biggs, 2022 Agape Christian High School Graduate, attending SIU Carbondale
- Benjamin Hyink, 2021 Carbondale Homeschool Graduate, attending Bob Jones University
- Aren Abell, 2020 Graduate of Murphysboro High School, attending SIU Carbondale

- Harris Ehlers, 2022 Trico High School Graduate, attending Arkansas Elite Welding Academy
- Lilli Robinson, 2020 Murphysboro High School Graduate, attending SIU Carbondale
- Kory Behnken, 2020 Trico High School Graduate, attending University of Illinois
- Kody Behnken, 2022 Trico High School Graduate, attending John A. Logan Community College
- Madison Falkenburry, 2022 Murphysboro High School Graduate, attending John A. Logan Community College
- Corbin Guthman, 2019 Murphysboro High School Graduate, attending Southeast Missouri State University
- Mitchel Gale, 2022 Trico High School Graduate, attending Southeast Missouri State University

Continued on page 18B ▶



Egyptian Electric
Cooperative Association
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

1732 Finney Road
Murphysboro, IL 62966

Business hours/After hours
800-606-1505

24/7 Automated Pay-by-Phone
844-759-3977

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

Board of Directors

Paul Hicks, President
Kevin Liefer, Vice-President
Randall Campbell, Secretary-Treasurer
Rick Asaturian
Kevin Bame
Mary Jo Homan
Ken Jarrett
Steve Prest
Paul Pyatt



Shane Hermetz
General Manager

Choose your payment option!

- At our office lobby, drive-thru, drop-box, or payment kiosk
- Mail to: 1732 Finney Road, Murphysboro, IL 62966
- Set up recurring bank draft or credit card payments
- 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 Pkwy in Carbondale and 1306 N Market in Sparta

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Water heating accounts for a large portion of home energy bills. To save energy (and money!) used for water heating, repair any leaky faucets, install low-flow fixtures and insulate accessible hot water lines. When it's time to purchase a new washing machine or dishwasher, look for models that are ENERGY STAR®-certified.

Source: Dept. of Energy



-  Ronald Partin (gift bag)
-  Juanita Dean (gift bag)
-  Tony Mayberry (gift bag)
-  James Winters (gift bag)
-  Shirley Franklin (gift bag)
-  Gyle Rodewald (gift bag)
-  Maxine Harrouff (\$50)
-  Van Robinson (\$50)
-  James Buitt (\$50)
-  Paul Penrod (\$50)
-  Peggy Darnell (\$50)
-  Dennis Phoenix (\$100)
-  Carl Handel (\$100)
-  Gary Jatho (\$100)
-  Marcia Krisby (\$100)
-  Larry Inselman (\$100)



**Operation Round Up, where together
we make the difference!**
www.eeca.coop/roundup

**\$150 Operation Round Up annual meeting drawing
winner Scott Connell of Marion**



\$1M capital credits

Egyptian Electric is returning over \$1M in capital credits to consumer-members who had service in 1991 & 1992 in August 2022.



LABOR DAY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Our office will be closed Monday, September 5 for the Labor Day holiday.

General retirement of over \$1 million capital credits

For 2022, EECA will retire (or pay) \$1,000,778.03 in capital credits this year to consumer-members who were served by our cooperative in 1991 and 1992. When you sign up to receive electric service from EECA, you become a consumer, as well as a member. When you pay your monthly EECA bill, you accumulate equity in EECA through capital credit allocation. When EECA has a positive margin, the margin is allocated through a capital credits system according to each member's usage. An allocation represents the member's share of ownership in our cooperative.

Checks will begin mailing on or around August 22, 2022. **51-05-0012** The check you would receive represents a portion of the margins allocated in the years 1991 & 1992, that you had service, proportional to the amount you contributed to each year's revenue.

Over our 84-year history, margins are used to keep rates affordable, to reduce the amount of money needed to borrow to build, maintain, and expand a reliable electric distribution system, and to cover emergency expenses.

Traditionally, our capital credit returns have been distributed yearly, by check, to those who received service from us approximately 30 years prior. This year, your board of directors elected to retire 100% of 1991 and 20% of 1992 which allows us to distribute a total amount of \$1,000,869.

If you have any questions regarding capital credits or your check, please contact us at (800) 606-1505 or capcredit@eeca.coop. In order to keep our records up to date for future capital credit check mailings, please keep us informed of any contact information and address changes to ensure any future checks can be received.



MEMBER PRIZES

Every month we will have three map location numbers hidden throughout our Egyptian Electric News section. If you find your location number, that corresponds to the one on your bill, 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.

MEMBER SATISFACTION SURVEY



 Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Thank you to those who participated in our every-other-year member satisfaction survey! On July 22, the 20-question surveys went out to 3,000 active EECA consumer-members, and at least 250 surveys had to be completed to obtain usable data. **44-23-0009** Although we will not receive the data until later this calendar year, we are happy to confirm we obtained enough participation to conduct an accurate profile. Thank you to those who were selected and took the time to complete the survey. One winner will be selected later this year to also win a \$250 EECA bill credit!

COMING SOON Classroom Grant Opportunities

School teachers & administrators can apply for one of the ten \$500 Classroom Grants that will be offered again this year. On September 6, grant applications will become available and will be due on November 4. Selections will be made and awarded mid-December.

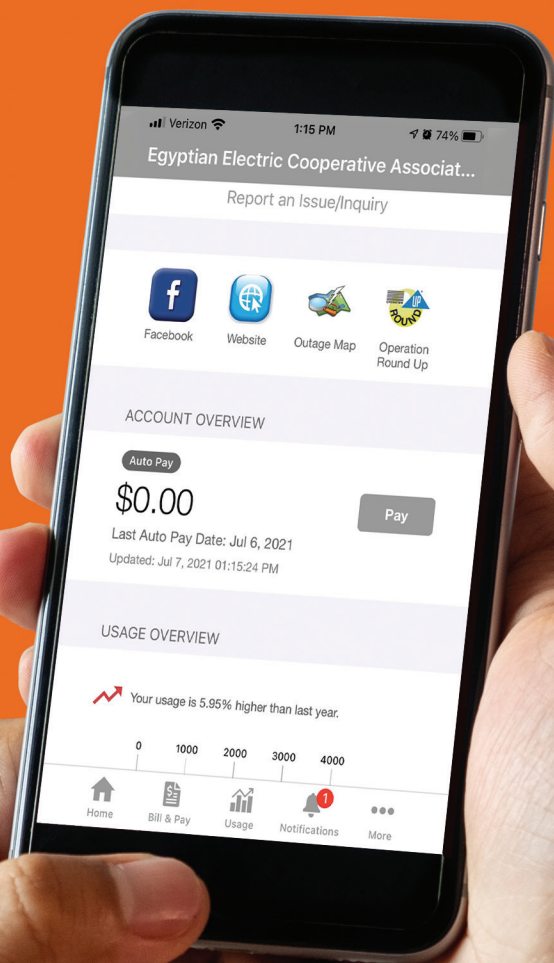


Power Cost Adjustment

As discussed in previous communications and at our annual meeting, EECA, like everyone in today's world, are not immune to external financial pressures. Due to factors such as power supply, inflation and supply chain issues, we will be implementing an increase in the Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) to \$0.004/kilowatt-hour (kWh), from \$0.002/kWh, effective July usage/August billing. A PCA of \$0.004/kWh is equivalent to \$4.00 per 1,000 kWh of usage. An average EECA consumer-member uses 1,800 kwh/month, which is approximately \$7.20 to the average consumer.

This is not a rate tariff modification, but the PCA is an adjustable line item, and from time to time increases and decreases as needed defined in our rate schedules. To learn more about our rate schedules and other cooperative news, visit eeca.coop.

Take control of your account with



View your bill

Review your current bill or billing and payment history. You can even enroll in paperless billing to reduce clutter.

Pay your bill

Enroll in AutoPay or make one-time payments with credit/debit cards or checking/savings account.

Report an outage or issue

From our SmartHub home screen, you can easily report an outage, other issue or inquiry.

Shortcuts

Access important alerts, sign up for Operation RoundUp, get Outage Map details, view our Facebook page & website, and quick methods to Contact Us.

Register your account today!

Visit SmartHub at eeca.coop to view our step-by-step guide on how to sign up!



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

