

Jo-Carroll Energy • Elizabeth, Illinois • 800-858-5522 • www.jocarroll.com

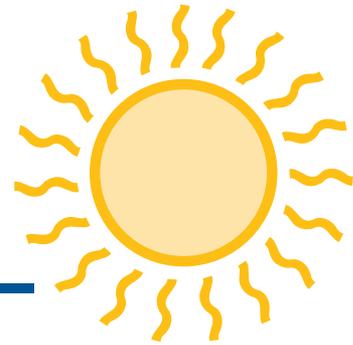
JO-CARROLL

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative  **HI-LINES**



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by Michael Hastings



South View Solar Farm – a cooperative solution

Reader Prize

Each month we print the name of a Jo-Carroll Energy member who is eligible to win a monthly \$25 readership prize. If your name is printed in this month's edition, and not a part of any article, contact Jo-Carroll Energy and claim your prize no later than the 10th of the month following publication.

Jo-Carroll Energy is pleased to announce we are now offering our members the opportunity to be part of a voluntary renewable energy option. We're moving forward with our first community solar project, South View Solar Farm to be located at our Elizabeth Headquarters.

Over the years we have had a number of members contact us about renewable energy projects. Recent surveys also indicate members want reliable service as well as innovative energy solutions. While some members have the right combination of location, available funds and technical knowledge to undertake their own project, many others do not.

Community solar farms allow individuals an affordable way to invest in solar and meet a rising demand for alternative energy sources. We're excited about this technology's potential and our ability to offer it to our members.

We recently awarded the bid for the project, and expect to start construction this fall. Members have the opportunity to purchase subscriptions on a per panel basis and to receive a bill credit based on the power generated.

The price of the subscriptions and the credits are based on the costs of this project. The program is structured so that costs are not passed on to other cooperative

members and is not subsidized by members not participating in the project.

Renewable energy projects, like our community solar farm, improve the sustainability of our communities and are a part of our commitment to environmental stewardship. It makes sense for us to take this step, since we've promoted renewable energy and energy efficiency for many years through the Evergreen program, geothermal heating and cooling and our energy efficiency programs.

A priority at Jo-Carroll Energy, energy efficiency will likely remain the most affordable way for members to reduce demand for electricity. Energy efficiency measures give you the power and choice to control energy costs. Visit the EnPower – Energy Efficiency section of our website for more information about rebates and incentives, Kill-A-Watt meters, home energy assessments and audits and our efficiency improvement loan programs. Remember, the cheapest, cleanest power is what's never generated.

You can learn more about South View Solar Farm and how to participate in the article on Page 16c of this issue. You can also visit our website where we've added a special section on the project and you can sign up for updates from the co-op.

Resume of Minutes

Regular Board Meeting • May 28, 2014

For your information

Your Board of Directors:

David Senn
Chairman
District 7

Chris Stadel
Vice Chairman
District 4

Marcia Stanger
Secretary
District 3

Martin Werner
Treasurer
District 1

Joseph Mattingley
District 2

Patricia Smith
District 5

Thomas Lundy
District 6

Russell Holesinger
District 8

Larry Carroll
District 9

Robert Kuhns
District 10

Douglas Darby
District 10

Ronald Hallendorff
District 10

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday

Elizabeth
793 U.S. Route 20 West
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Savanna
103 Chicago Ave.
8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
1:30 to 4 p.m.

Geneseo
1004 S. Chicago St.
7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
1:30 - 4 p.m.

Services and Billing Questions:

(800) 858-5522
www.jocarroll.com

For emergencies and outages call:
(800) 927-5254

The board met at the Cooperative headquarters in Elizabeth on Wednesday, May 28, 2014. The following is a summary of the meeting activities. The Agenda as modified and the Consent Agenda were approved.

Chairman's Report – Chairman Senn commented that the June meeting will be an open board meeting. He reported that member Scott Sullivan would give a presentation at the meeting. Director Senn said that he is proud of the Board for the work they have done and thanked the Staff for their efforts.

Dairyland Report – Director Stadel reported that CEO Bill Berg will retire at the end of this year. Director Stadel reported that he is a member of the search committee for a new CEO. He reported that division costs, generator costs, and power delivery costs were down. Director Stadel reported on the Executive Committee Meeting observations and the Bylaw changes that will be presented at the Dairyland Annual Meeting.

AIEC Report – Director Senn reported that they approved the AIEC budget for next year. He reported that ACRE Vice-Presidents' Club is a success.

APGA Report – Director Carroll reported on the issues from the APGA Legislative Conference and the meeting with Senator Durbin. He reported that there are regulations and compliance issues and suggested checking Jo-Carroll Energy's manuals and policies to see that they are up-to-date.

PPI Report – CEO Hastings and Senior V.P. and Assistant General Manager Buros reported on the PPI meeting that Buros and Director Darby attended. The director of the Prairie State campus has resigned and PPI CEO Jay Bartlett is taking an even more active role at the plant to help resolve ongoing issues.

Monthly Committee Review

a. Policy – Board Policy 130: Capital Credit Retirement was approved without revisions.

b. Board Self Evaluation Report – Director Senn discussed the various comments regarding the Board Self Evaluation Report.

CEO's Report – The CEO reported on the following in addition to his written report:

a. Financial Operating Report – Hastings reported that the Cooperative had an unaudited margin of approximately \$186,820 in April, compared to a budgeted margin of \$179,971. The Board accepted the April Financial Operating Report for filing by general consent.

b. Power Supply Report – CEO Hastings reported that later in the meeting the Board would be asked to ratify three agreements that have been entered into.

c. CFO Report – CFO Heidenreich gave an update on the capital credit program and the Cost of Service study.

d. Assistant General Manager Report – Sr. Vice President and Assistant General Manager Buros gave an update on the Natural Gas peaking unit, community solar RFP, and the Geneseo transmission line.

e. Culture of Excellence and Communications – Merri Sevey, Vice-President of Human

Resources reported on the new hires, the 75th Celebration, the computers the board will be evaluating for their own use, and the 2014 Annual Meeting expenses.

f. Member Services – Vice-President of Member Services Skien reported on the bill redesign and the update on mobile apps.

g. External Affairs – Chris Allendorff, Corporate Counsel, reported on the Cross State Air Pollution Rule, the EPA's existing Power Plant Rule, and the IL income tax. Board Attorney Cox reported on Capital Tax.

Board Issues

a. Power Supply Agreement – President and CEO Hastings and Sr. Vice-President and Assistant General Manager Buros gave a power point presentation on recent Agreements concerning power supply for the former Alliant service territory: The Morgan Stanley Agreement, which is the energy only component, capacity through Dairyland Power, cost breakdown, base case comparisons, and the next steps for the Cooperative. The board approved a Resolution to Ratify the Morgan Stanley Energy and Dairyland Power Cooperative Agreements for power supply, capacity, and assignment of the Morgan Stanley Agreement to Dairyland.

b. Resolution-Power Supply Costs – The Board approved a Resolution deferring expenses related to the Power Supply Agreement for the former Alliant territory, which is in line with Generally Accepted Accounting Practices that require that expenses are matched with the activity to which they are related.

c. Accrual for Provision for Doubtful Accounts – The board approved the accrual for provision for doubtful accounts as recommended by the auditors.

d. NRECA 929.1 Course and AIEC Annual Meeting – Attendees were identified for the NRECA Course and AIEC Meeting.

e. Voting Delegate/Alternate to AIEC Annual Meeting – Director Kuhns will serve as the Voting Delegate and Director Darby as the Alternate.

f. Dairyland Power Director/Alternate – Director Stadel will serve as the Dairyland Director and Director Werner as the alternate.

g. CFC IL Statewide Financial Workshop, Region 5/6 Meeting and 75th Anniversary Celebration – Attendees were identified.

Member Scott Sullivan Presentation – Sullivan presented energy costs to operate the Savanna Super 8 and Savanna Sullivan Foods grocery store. He compared the energy costs to his other hotels and grocery stores located outside Jo-Carroll Energy's Service Territory.

TCEDA Update – Lisa McCarthy gave a power point presentation highlighting TCEDA's progress in the last year, upcoming activities, and ideas regarding the direction of TCEDA going forward.

Reports – Report was heard on the NRECA and APGA Legislative Conferences.

Upcoming Meetings – Dairyland Annual Meeting, CFC Forum, and the 75th Anniversary Celebration were discussed.

Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 1:47 P.M.

Community solar farm to harvest sun's energy

Jo-Carroll Energy members now have the opportunity to purchase part of the output of the cooperative's first community solar farm to be built later this year.

The South View Solar Farm will be built on three-quarters of an acre behind the east campus at Jo-Carroll Energy's headquarters in Elizabeth. The array will consist of 460 solar panels with a combined capacity of 126.5 KW (dc). Each panel has a capacity of 275 watts.

Jo-Carroll Energy members who receive their electricity from the co-op can purchase subscriptions and receive a monthly bill credit for their panel's output.

Subscriptions are available on a first-come, first-serve basis and will be sold for \$890 per panel. A member may subscribe to no more than 10 panels. Members are not actually purchasing panels but capacity credits for the panels.

Credit based on the actual production of the solar farm will be provided on participating members' electric bills for 20 years. The estimated average return is \$48-50 per panel per year in credits. Participating members can expect to break even on their investment over the life of the project.

The solar project is designed not to be subsidized by members not participating in the project. The price of the subscriptions and the credits are based on the costs of this project. The program is structured so that costs are not passed on to other cooperative members who choose not to participate.

Jo-Carroll Energy anticipates groundbreaking this summer and to commission the solar farm later this year.

Jo-Carroll Energy chose to partner with the National Renewables Cooperative Organization in planning

for the solar farm. Cooperatives across the country formed NRCO to promote and facilitate the development of renewable energy resources for its members. The group's main purpose is to facilitate the cost-effective, joint development of renewable resources nationwide for its cooperative owners, helping its owners meet requirements of voluntary and mandatory Renewable Energy Standards (RES).

With the help of NRCO, a request for proposal was developed and released this spring. The winning bid on the project was by Eagle Point Solar of Dubuque. The solar array will be built using all American-made materials. The cooperative will maintain the solar farm.

Visit our website for more information on South View Solar Farm and to sign up for email updates from Jo-Carroll Energy.

Students visit Washington, D.C.

Rachel Badtke and Maggie Kirst represented Jo-Carroll Energy, Inc. (NFP) in Washington, D.C., during the annual "Youth to Washington" Tour, June 13-20. This event, sponsored by the electric and telephone cooperatives of Illinois since the late 1950s, is an introduction for rural youth to our democratic form of government and the cooperative business model.

The students met with Congresswoman Cheri Bustos and were among 75 rural Illinois youth leaders selected for the trip. The Illinois students joined more than 1,600 young leaders from across the country from 44 states. In addition to the Capitol, they also visited Gettysburg, Arlington National Cemetery, the Washington National Cathedral, several Smithsonian Museums, The U.S. Supreme Court,



the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, the World War II Memorial, memorials to Presidents Lincoln, Jefferson, Washington and Roosevelt, the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, the Newseum and a

number of other historical sites.

Sophomores and juniors in high schools that are within the service area of Jo-Carroll Energy, Inc. (NFP) are eligible to participate in the annual program.

75th anniversary celebration draws large crowd

Nearly 600 members and friends of the cooperative turned out Saturday, June 21 as Jo-Carroll Energy celebrated 75 years of service to members.

"We thank members for their loyalty to our co-op and displayed our appreciation by providing local food vendors and entertainers for members and their families to enjoy on the 75th Anniversary," said Merri Sevey, vice president of human resources, who helped organize the anniversary event.

Founded in 1939, Jo-Carroll Energy began when a group of farmers recognized the need for electricity in rural Jo Daviess and Carroll counties. Starting with 60 members, Jo-Carroll Energy's purpose was not just powering farms and homes to members but to do so with a mission in mind. This mission, that embodies the co-op values and commitment to community that Jo-Carroll Energy was founded on, continues today: "Jo-Carroll Energy exists to enhance the quality of life for our members."

Weather conditions were favorable to start the day as the Touchstone Energy hot air balloon could be seen above the ball diamond in Elizabeth and several members were able to take tethered rides.

One of the day's highlights was a special 75th Anniversary video



Four generations... A commemorative cookbook was another way the co-op celebrated its 75th anniversary. The cover features the photo of Mrs. Louise Guenzler from the co-op's 50th anniversary history booklet. Three generations of the family were on hand for the celebration including her daughter, Marcella Arnold (far right) and Marcella's daughter Linda Baake and granddaughters Carmen and Nina, who were visiting from Berlin, Germany.

featuring former directors, members and employees who told their stories of when the lights came on and memories of the co-op. The film highlights the evolution of the co-op over the years, and can be viewed on the cooperative's website and YouTube channel.

The event also featured educational demonstrations including the Pole Top Rescue and Hotline demo re-enacted by some of Jo-Carroll

Energy's linemen. Energy efficiency was also a focus, with the Energy Detective booth and Energy Wall that displayed efficiency options and tips.

Several members voted in the Lil' Mr. Jo and Miss Carroll contest. Aidan Wand of Elizabeth was selected as the Lil' Mr. Jo and Caylee Allen of Hanover took the title as Little Miss Carroll (pictured below, center).

Seven classic cars were a part of a car show display during the after-



noon. Robert Law received best of show for his 1957 two-toned blue and white Bonneville.

Several members were winners in a bill credit drawing. All of the names pulled received a credit towards their next Jo-Carroll Energy bill. The following names are the 15 members who were chosen: Monica Gilmore, Hanover; Wayne Law, Savanna; Mary Chapman, Galena; Rose Ertmer, Elizabeth; Curtis Holman, Galena; Scott Honerbaum, Elizabeth; Karen Koester, Elizabeth; Beverly Kloss, Elizabeth; Jennifer Redfearn, Elizabeth; Audrey Geisz, Elizabeth; Cory Walters, Elizabeth; Ethel Madey, Galena; Leroy Getz, Savanna; Andrew Carter, Elizabeth; and Jeni Pearce, Elizabeth.

“Not only does Jo-Carroll Energy strive to recognize and thank their members and the communities it serves but also those who have made this progress possible with their hard work,” said Sevey. “Jo-Carroll would like to thank the employees and directors for their continuous commitment and propelling the co-op into the strong community it is today.”

Seventy-five years of progress has grown into not only 26,000 electric, natural gas and broadband internet accounts but a community of support.



Maple Leaf Medical, Geneseo

“It is nothing but a good feeling to help someone,” said respiratory therapist, Heather DeBrock, owner and founder of Maple Leaf Medical of Geneseo.

Maple Leaf Medical is a durable medical equipment (DME) retailer aimed at giving patients the ability to live comfortably at home.

“DME providers are here to help keep people at home and keep them safe without having to spend fortunes,” explained DeBrock.

Before Maple Leaf Medical opened its doors in September of 2010, DeBrock served as a respiratory therapist at Genesis Medical Center and then as a sleep technician in Monterey, Calif. While in California, DeBrock was mentored by “The Sleep Doctor”, Michael J. Breus, Ph.D.

“I wanted to provide more to patients so Dr. Breus encouraged me to start my own business,” said DeBrock. She took this advice, moved to her hometown of Geneseo and opened Maple Leaf Medical.

Maple Leaf Medical provides the basic medical necessities of day-to-day living, not limited to home oxygen, bath safety equipment, walkers, wheelchairs, hospital beds and CPAP machines.

DeBrock advises patients to speak with their medical doctor or professional. Patients may contact Maple Leaf Medical after they have received a medical equipment prescription.

To DeBrock, the business is not just a job but rather an opportunity to provide personal care and create a relationship with her patients.

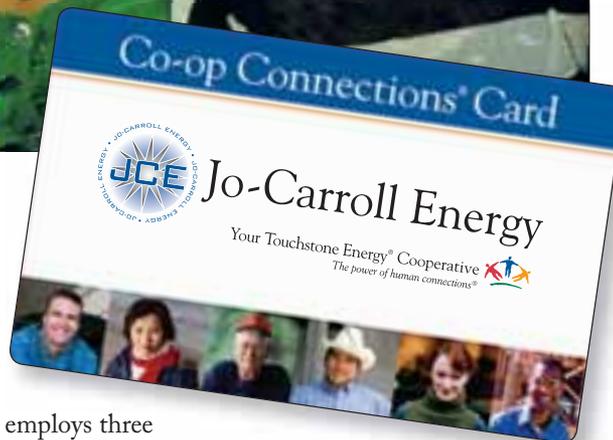
Educating patients about their medical equipment is very important to the staff at Maple Leaf



Medical, DeBrock noted. Everything they do is intended to prevent patients from a hospital visit. Including herself, Maple Leaf Medical employs three employees. **nos fy**

“I am from here, but I have also learned a lot about the community now that I am back,” said DeBrock. As a member of the Geneseo school board, the Chamber of Commerce and Rotary, DeBrock said she believes that “everyone works well together.”

DeBrock, her husband and two children enjoy boating, spending time with their parents and traveling.



Maple Leaf Medical accepts, among other insurance, Medicare, Blue Cross/Blue Shield and Health Alliance. Visit DeBrock and her staff at 111 South State Street in Geneseo as well as MapleLeafMedicalServices.net. Call 309-944-1190 for more information. Jo-Carroll Energy members may receive 10 percent off retail items when they show their Co-op Connections Card at purchase.

Jo-Carroll Energy

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Keep food cool as temperatures heat up

Summer months are great for grilling. And it's a great way to be energy efficient and save, but don't stop with energy efficient cooking methods.

Consider how you can conserve and save money while cooling those leftovers after the barbecue. Use these simple tips to keep your bill cool this summer:



- ◆ **Fill the fridge.** Full refrigerators and freezers don't have to work as hard to cool the warm air that enters when you open the door.
- ◆ **Do some maintenance.** Pull the unit away from the wall and spend a few minutes cleaning the coils.
- ◆ **Wait to put the leftovers away.** Waiting just a few minutes to put hot food away will mean your fridge isn't working as hard to cool it down.
- ◆ **Check your settings.** Your refrigerator can be set between 36 and 38 degrees, while your freezer can be set anywhere from 0 to five degrees.
- ◆ **Shut the door.** The more you open the door of your refrigerator and freezer, the more cold air escapes and warm air gets in.

SUMMER ENERGY EFFICIENCY: *Myth vs. Fact*

Myth #1: When I'm not home, keeping my air conditioner at a lower temperature throughout the day means it doesn't have to run harder to cool my home when I return.

FACT: To save energy, set your thermostat to a higher temperature during the day, and lower it when you return home.

Myth #2: Closing vents on my central air conditioning system will boost efficiency.

FACT: Closing vents can cause the compressor to cycle too frequently and the heat pump to overwork. You'll also use more energy.

Myth #3: Time of day doesn't matter when it comes to running my appliances.

FACT: Time of day does matter when running electrical loads. For example, take advantage of the delay setting and top-load dishwasher at night to avoid peak times of use and save energy.

Myth #4: Bigger is always better when it comes to cooling equipment.

FACT: The often, cooling equipment just cool properly and look for higher energy bills. A unit that's too large for your home will run continuously and might produce higher humidity indoors.

DO THE SUMMER SHIFT 11 am - 7 pm

It's so simple. Shifting energy use to before 11 am or after 7 pm weekdays helps keep electric rates affordable for everyone.

- ◆ Delay the dishwasher.
- ◆ Turn up the thermostat.
- ◆ Shift the start of laundry.

TOGETHER **WE** SAVE

Aug. 11 (8/11) serves as convenient reminder to

Always call 811 before digging

With Aug. 11 almost here, Jo-Carroll Energy hopes this date on the calendar, 8/11, will serve as a natural reminder for residents to call 811 prior to any digging project to have underground utility lines marked.

Every six minutes an underground utility line is damaged because someone decided to dig without first calling 811. In Illinois, the one-call center is JULIE that can also be reached at the toll-free number 800-892-0123 or online at www.illinois1call.com.

When calling 811, homeowners and contractors are connected to JULIE, the local one call center, which notifies the appropriate utility companies of their intent to dig. Professional locators are then sent to the requested digging site to mark the approximate locations of underground lines with flags, spray paint or both. The legal start date and time will be 48 hours from the time that JULIE processes your locate request.

Striking a single line can cause injury, repair costs, fines and inconvenient out-ages. Every digging project, no matter how large or small, warrants a call to 811. Installing a mailbox, building a deck, planting a tree and laying a patio are all examples of digging projects that need a call to 811 before starting.

On Aug. 11 and throughout the year, we remind homeowners and professional contractors alike to call 811 before digging to eliminate the risk of striking an underground utility line. It really is the only way to know which utilities are buried in your area.”

The depth of utility lines can vary for a number of reasons, such as erosion, previous digging projects and uneven surfaces. Utility lines need to be properly marked because even when digging only a few inches, the risk of striking an underground utility line still exists.



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**