

# Norris Electric *News*

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner



*Ron Viehman*



*Dan Strine*



*Dean Dietrich*

## Petitions for board of directors are available

The term of three directors will expire with the February 2020 annual meeting. The board seats up for election with one board member to be elected from each county are: Wabash, Lawrence and Richland.

All incumbents intend to seek re-election. They are: Dan Strine, Wabash County; Ron Viehman, Lawrence County; and Dean Dietrich, Richland

County. Any other members that reside and take service in any of the counties above may also submit a petition and be placed on the ballot.

According to the cooperative bylaws, all candidates must submit a petition signed by at least 25 members to be placed on the ballot. Requests for petitions will be available Nov. 1, 2019 and may be obtained by contacting the

cooperative office. **Petitions must be returned to the cooperative office by noon on Dec. 10, 2019.**

Petitioners with qualified petitions will be placed on the ballots. Ballots will be mailed 30 - 45 days prior to our annual meeting. The results will then be announced at our annual meeting to be held on Feb. 8, 2020.



# Attention High School Seniors

Norris Electric Cooperative will award three \$1,000 scholarships to the sons or daughters of Norris Electric members who are currently receiving service from the cooperative at the time the scholarship application is submitted.

#### Requirements for application:

1. Must be a high school senior
2. Must begin college within a year of notification
3. Must be a full time (12 hours) student

#### Scholarship awarded based on:

4. Grade point average
5. College entrance test scores
6. Work & volunteer experience
7. School & community activities
8. Knowledge of electric cooperatives
9. Biographical essay

*For more information, contact your high school guidance department or visit the cooperative website at [www.norriselectric.com](http://www.norriselectric.com) to download an application.*

**Deadline for application submission is Feb. 1, 2020**



## Twelve 2020 IEC Memorial Scholarships available

Norris Electric Cooperative has announced that Illinois electric cooperatives will award 12 scholarships in 2020 to financially assist deserving students in the electric cooperative family. The 12 scholarships, \$2,000 each, will be awarded through the Thomas H. Moore Illinois Electric Cooperatives (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program.

Six scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors who are the sons or daughters of an Illinois electric co-op member. A seventh scholarship, the Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship, will be awarded to a student who is the son or daughter of an Illinois electric cooperative employee or director. Four additional scholarships are reserved for students enrolling full time at a two-year Illinois community college who are the sons or daughters of Illinois electric

cooperative members, employees or directors.

The 12th scholarship, the LaVern and Nola McEntire Lineworker's Scholarship, will help pay for costs to attend lineworker school conducted by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives in conjunction with Lincoln Land Community College, Springfield, Ill. Sons and daughters of co-op members, relatives of co-op employees or directors, and individuals who have served or are serving in the armed forces or National Guard are all eligible for this scholarship.

"We hope to assist electric cooperative youth while honoring past rural electric leaders with these scholarships," says Manager Tamara Phillips. "Norris Electric and the other Illinois electric co-ops 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 through programs like this one. In addition, we are very pleased to offer the electric lineworker's scholarship. It will benefit not only electric cooperative youth but also those fine men and women who have served their country through their military service and may now be wanting to become a trained lineworker."

For more information regarding the scholarships, contact your high school guidance counselors or visit the cooperative website at [www.norriselectric.com](http://www.norriselectric.com) to download an application.

# Frogs and hornets

There are many different obstacles and incidents that cause outages. Normally we think of outages as weather related, but critters are a huge contribution to member outages. For example, frogs and hornets!



## Budget Billing

Members wanting to eliminate the fluctuations of their monthly electric bills are encouraged to sign up for Norris Electric's Budget Billing program!

Accounts with at least 12 months of consumption history and with account balances paid in full are eligible.

- Monthly budget bills are reevaluated in November and May.
- If a change results from the recalculation, a message will be printed on your May and November bill

indicating this new amount. If you do not see a message on your bill, your budget amount has remained the same.

- There is no "catch up" month. When reevaluating the account, any under-collected amounts and overpaid amounts are "rolled over" into the next 12 months.
- Monthly budget bills must be paid before the next month's bill is calculated. If payment is not received, the account will be removed from the budget plan.

- If an account is removed from budget billing for any reason, any balance on the account is due immediately.
- Budget Billing is automatically renewed, unless terminated by either the member or the cooperative.

*Think you might be interested in Norris Electric's Budget Billing program? If so, contact a member service representative at 1-877-783-8765 or via email at [billing@norriselectric.com](mailto:billing@norriselectric.com).*



## Norris Electric linemen compete in Lineman's Safety Rodeo

Eleven teams of linemen from 10 electric cooperatives and one municipal electric company participated in the 22nd annual Lineman's Safety Rodeo sponsored by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC) on Friday, Sept. 27. The rodeo gives linemen the opportunity to showcase their skills in a friendly competition with other lineworkers across the state.

Erik Steffen, Ian Moore and Connor Walters represented Norris Electric Cooperative at the event, held on the Chuck West Lineman Training Grounds at Lincoln Land Community College (LLCC) in Springfield.

Each year, teams of linemen from Illinois electric co-ops and municipal utilities participate in competitive events using skills that focus on agility, speed and accuracy. While these skills are part of the judging criteria, above all, the linemen are judged on safe work practices.

Line personnel competed in four team events, three individual events and a head-to-head climbing challenge. Team and individual events included hurt man rescue, egg climb (linemen climb a 30-foot pole with a raw egg in their mouth) and an H-structure obstacle course. Additionally, teams competed in a crossarm change. At the end of the

day, individuals competed in a head-to-head climbing challenge and were seeded in a bracket based on their scores from the egg climb.

Scores for each event use a 100-point scale and are based on completion time, proper execution of the task and safety. Deductions were 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.

*Congratulations to our linemen on their team and individual efforts.*