


Norris Electric *News*

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Norris Electric Cooperative

8543 N St Hwy 130
Newton, IL 62448

Phone: 618-783-8765
or **Toll-Free:**
1-877-783-8765

Report an Outage:
1-877-783-3221

Office Hours:
Monday – Thursday
7 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Chairman

Gordon McClureJasper

Vice Chairman

Justin Parcel..... Clark

Secretary/Treasurer

Ted Helmink Cumberland

Directors

Ava LemmonCrawford

Dean Dietrich..... Richland

Kurt HolscherCrawford

Gilbert Garbe..... Effingham

Scott Weiss.....Lawrence

Dan Strine Wabash

Dave Sheppard.....Jasper

Ron Viehman.....Lawrence

General Manager

Tamara Phillips



New substation ensures a continuing strong source of power

We are pleased to announce Hidalgo Substation, located in Jasper County, as our 35th distribution substation.

Design features include modern, state-of-the-art equipment, a safety-oriented configuration, under-voltage protection and ample capacity for growth. The automatic under-voltage protection scheme is of particular interest because it will help mitigate member equipment damage from a partial power event at the source.

With the Hidalgo substation, we can now back feed members from the Greenup, Newton, Gila, Jackville, Eaton and Casey substations. In the past, these members could not be kept on with a substation outage. Now these members

can be switched to an alternate substation year-round.

Norris Electric effectively started feeding members on Oct. 5th off the Hidalgo substation.

Norris would like to thank our members for permitting right-of-way privileges, tree removal and land purchases so we are able to complete substation projects and provide the best reliable service we can.

Without the cooperation of members, Norris would not be able to improve our system. The most economical way to improve reliability is to increase tie lines and back feeding capabilities which require new right-of-way access from our members. Without member cooperation, there would be no co-op.

Gift of energy

With the holidays quickly approaching, why not make gift giving easier with Norris Electric's "Gift of Energy" program. While most people wouldn't normally look to

their electric cooperative for gift ideas, Norris Electric Cooperative is offering just that. Through our Gift of Energy program, anyone can make a payment on a cooperative member's account

by filling out the form below or stopping by the office. The Gift of Energy program provides our members the opportunity to make life a little easier for someone they care about.

Gift of Energy Program

Gift Amount \$ _____ From: _____

Member name (s) _____ Phone: _____

FOR ANY CLARIFICATION QUESTIONS

Member address _____

Member Phone _____ Keep Anonymous

SUBMIT CHECK TO
NORRIS ELECTRIC COOP

8543 N State Hwy 130, Newton IL 62448
1-877-783-8765



A salute to our Norris Electric veterans

As we celebrate our nation's heroes on Veterans Day, we want to take a moment to honor members of the Norris Electric family who have served in the armed forces.

We recognize the selfless sacrifice of our military veterans who proudly served our country and now serve Norris Electric Cooperative.



Ian Moore
United States Air Force
1992 - 1996

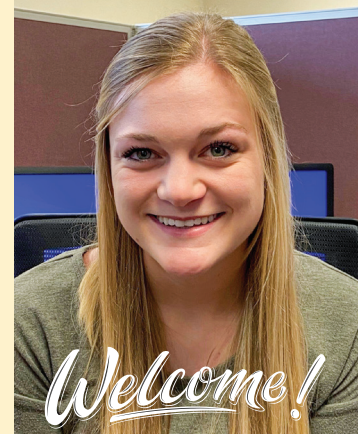


Ed Hannaman
United States Army
1987 - 1999



Bill Fields
United States Marine Corps
1995 - 1999

Thank you for your service.



Norris Electric would like to welcome Adrianna Bergbower to our coop family. Adrianna started her career with Norris on Sept. 6th as a member service representative. Adrianna graduated from Olney Central College with an associate's degree and loves to spend time with friends and family.

We wish Adrianna a long, fulfilling career at Norris Electric Cooperative.



Fifteen 2023 IEC Memorial Scholarships available

Illinois electric cooperatives will award 15 scholarships in 2023 to financially assist deserving students in the electric cooperative family. The 15 scholarships, \$2,000 each, will be awarded through the Thomas H. Moore Illinois Electric Cooperatives (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program.

Nine scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors whose parent(s) are an Illinois electric co-op member. A 10th scholarship, the Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship, will be awarded to a student who is the child of an Illinois electric cooperative employee or director. Four additional scholarships are reserved for high school seniors enrolling full time at a two-year Illinois community college whose parent(s) are an Illinois electric cooperative member, employee or director.

The 15th 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, in Springfield, Ill. Children 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 Tami Phillips. "Norris Electric 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."

Deadline to apply is Dec. 31, 2022. The lineworker scholarship deadline is April 30, 2023. For more information regarding the scholarships, contact Norris Electric. Information has also been shared with area high school guidance counselors and is available online at norriselectric.com.

Lavern and Nola McEntire Lineworker's Scholarship

What is the Lavern and Nola McEntire Lineworker's Scholarship?

This \$2,000 scholarship will help pay for costs to attend the lineworker's school conducted by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperative (AIEC) in conjunction with Lincoln Land Community College, Springfield, IL.

Who is eligible to receive the scholarship?

One scholarship a year will be awarded to an individual who is the child of an electric cooperative member in Illinois; or is related to a rural electric cooperative employee or director in the State of Illinois; or is enrolled in the Lincoln Land lineworker's school; or has served or is serving in the U.S. Armed Forces or National Guard. The applicant must have a high

school diploma or a GED at the time the scholarship is awarded. (Please see the "Lavern and Nola McEntire Lineworker's Scholarship Official Rules & Regulations" sheet for all eligibility requirements.)

How are the recipients selected?

Scholarships are awarded based on an essay, a biographical statement and references that will be submitted.

How does someone apply?

To apply, the applicant must meet the required criteria as outlined in the "Official Rules & Regulations" and complete the scholarship application available at norriselectric.com. Each applicant is responsible for submitting all information required to apply for a scholarship by April 30, 2023.



Attention High School Seniors!

Norris Electric Cooperative will award three \$1,000 scholarships to the sons or daughter 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:

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

Deadline for application submission is Feb. 1, 2023

For more information contact your high school guidance department or visit the cooperative website at norriselectric.com to download an application.



DMH PHOTOGRAPHY

Groundbreaking ceremony held

A groundbreaking ceremony was recently held for the new office building for Norris Electric Cooperative (NEC). General Manager Tamara Phillips stated, “We have spent the last four years evaluating and planning this building and are excited to get this project moving and completed.”

In the last 25 years, technology has changed greatly, and the current building will not adequately support it. Norris has come to a crossroad where our growing needs must be acted upon.

Norris Electric Board of Directors decided to engage outside professional

assistance to evaluate and identify options to address the needs and problems. The study revealed numerous issues that include lack of member convenience and privacy, security, lack of critical technology, lack of sufficient working bathroom facilities, lack of current ADA requirements along with moisture problems throughout the building.

After evaluating all of these issues, it was decided by the board that a new office building would be the best solution. It will provide increased productivity, better workflow and efficiencies which will help meet the needs of the employees as

well as the members. The new facility will have a drive-thru window which will better serve our members.

Norris does not expect an increase in your monthly bill due to the cost of this new office building. The project will be completed by a local contractor, Wohltman Construction, with date of completion targeted for mid-summer 2023. Your cooperative is very excited about the construction of the new office building and how it will help in continuing to provide safe, reliable and affordable electric service for many decades to come.

Petitions for board of directors are available

What does it mean to serve on the board?

Serving on Norris Electric’s board means you’re making a difference locally, using your individual talents and perspective to guide big decisions about the co-op that in turn benefit the larger community. While day-to-day decisions are made by co-op staff, major decisions are made by the board, whose mission is to look out for the vitality of the co-op and the community it serves. On a granular level, Norris Electric board members typically provide input and guidance on:

- budgets
- co-op goals and direction
- co-op’s community/charitable contributions

- capital investments and upgrades in equipment and technology
- renewable investments and energy mix
- co-op’s role and involvement in economic development
- analyze and approve Purchase Power Agreement

The term of three directors will expire with the February 2023 Annual Meeting. The board seats up for election with one board member to be elected from each county are Richland, Wabash and Lawrence.

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

County, is not seeking re-election. Any members that reside and take service in any of the three counties above may submit a petition to be placed on the ballot.

According to the cooperative’s 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, 2022 and may be obtained by contacting the cooperative office. **Petitions must be returned to the cooperative office by noon on Dec. 28, 2022.**

Petitioners with qualified petitions will be placed on the ballot. 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. 25, 2023.