

## Area Serviceman Scott Carle retires after 20 years

Twenty years ago, Scott Carle began his career at Western Illinois Electrical Coop. He started with the line crew and then went on to become area serviceman. As area serviceman, Scott served our members by connecting and disconnecting services, restoring outages and doing security light maintenance.

Scott says he will not miss the after-hours outages he's worked for so many years. But when power outages occur or bad (7819-54-15) weather happens, he will be thinking about his fellow workers and hope they stay safe.

We wish the same for you, Scott! Stay safe and enjoy the retirement ride!



### Here is his story:

#### What was your start date?

April 27, 1998

#### How would you describe your role at WIEC?

I have a wide range of duties to serve the members. There is tree trimming, line work, security lights repair and installation, locating underground wires, and troubleshooting. Troubleshooting is what I enjoy the most. When a member has a problem with their lights, like blinking or low-voltage, I like to look for the problems and figure out the best way to fix it.

#### What has changed the most in the 20-plus years you've been here?

The equipment is better. Our old

(tree) chipper didn't have an auto feed. It would whip you like Mom did with a green switch. Our bucket trucks have better reachability and mobility. I hate to admit it but having iPads in the trucks has helped tremendously. They contain mapping and line information that is needed out in the field.

#### What is on your wish list for the next five years?

I would like to spend more time with my wife and my grandkids. Also, try to finish all the half-done projects around my place. I also hope to (8623-10) ride my horse, Chavez, more often.

#### What might (someone) be surprised to know about you?

My bark is worse than my bite.



#### What is the first thing you would buy if you won the lottery?

I would like to take my wife, my three kids (and spouses) and my 12 grandkids on a family vacation – possibly an island resort.



**Western Illinois**  
ELECTRICAL COOP.  
A Teleshare Energy Cooperative

524 North Madison | P.O. Box 338  
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www.wiec.net | 800/576-3125

**OFFICE HOURS**

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Monday - Friday

**BUSINESS OFFICE**

217-357-3125

**TO REPORT AN OUTAGE**

800-576-3125

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**MAP LOCATION CONTEST**

Every month we are printing four members' map location numbers in the newsletter. If you find your map location number call the WIEC office by the 25th of the following month, tell us where it is and we will give you a \$10.00 bill credit. Keep on reading the WIEC News.



**Reminder ...**

The Youth to Washington entries are due at the WIEC office by **February 15**. For additional information, see your high school guidance counselor, call the WIEC office or go to the WIEC website at [www.wiec.net](http://www.wiec.net).

**Welcome New Members**

**NOVEMBER 2018**

Logan Conkright, Hamilton  
FTC Tower Co., Kingstree, S.C.  
Corey & Ariel Jonas, Hamilton  
Rachael & Shane Woodside,  
Nauvoo

**Energy Efficiency  
Tip of the Month**

Laundry Tip: Dry towels and heavier cottons separately from lighter-weight clothing. You'll spend less time running the dryer for lighter-weight items, which saves energy.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)

**Capital credit checks remain outstanding**

Last fall, Western Illinois Electrical Coop. mailed capital credits checks to members who lived on WIEC lines during 1983.

Below is a list of the member's names whose checks have not been cashed. Due to the advance printing of the WIEC News, any checks cashed (7718-55) after Jan. 1 will still appear on the list.

If you see your name listed below, please cash your check as soon as possible. Thank you for your assistance.

- ALLEN FRANCIS
- ALLEN LORA
- ALTON RICHARD
- ANDERSON LARRY G
- ANNEGERS RAYMOND R
- APPEL DAVID
- BALMER LEVI E
- BALMER WILLIAM
- BARNS WARREN P
- BAWDEN KYLE
- BELSHAW MARTY
- BENTZINGER DOROTHY L
- BERGMEIER ELOISE
- BERGMEIER FRANCIS A
- BIGGER LONNIE JR
- BOLLIN ARDEN
- BOLLIN HARRY C
- BOLTON STEVEN A
- BOOTON FLOSSIE
- BOUGHTON MARK S
- BOYD CLARA J
- BOYD JERALD
- BP PIPELINES (NA) INC
- BROCKMEIER RUTH
- BROWN BETTY
- BROWN LARRY G
- BUBB VERNON
- BUCKERT DANNY
- BUCKERT RODNEY L
- BURFORD DAN L
- BURT MAE C
- BURTON WILLIAM
- BUSWELL KEVIN M
- C B S REALITY
- CALIFF BILL
- CARLISLE LIVESTOCK & GRAIN
- CARNES JANE
- CHEESMAN W W
- CHENEY DAVID L
- COEUR BOB

COFFMAN KENNETH  
COMSTOCK BETTY M  
CONOVER GLENDA  
COOK RICKEY E  
COVERT DARRELL  
COX DIXIE L  
COX FRED  
CRABILL JERRY L  
CROSSLAND ONILEE  
CROW O DAVID  
CUTLER MICHAEL  
DICKWISCH PAT  
DIEW RUTH M  
DIEWOLD JOHN D  
DORAN WILLIAM E  
DOWDEN COMM INC  
DOWELL KENNETH  
DOWELL MADELINE  
DUNHAM LENA  
DUROCHER DANEIL J  
DYE PHILIP D  
EDDINGTON DEAN  
ELAND DAVID G  
ELLEDGE DAVID R  
ERBLAND JOHN A  
EWING PATRICK J  
FARMERS HOME ADM  
FERGUSON RANDY  
FINCH WILLIAM  
FISHER JOHN W  
FOSTER JERRY E  
FOSTER MAHALA L  
GALBRAITH MAX B  
GATES G E  
GERHARDT GENE  
GITTINGS VERDA MAE  
GLIDDEN JACQUELINE  
GLISAN LARRY  
GRAY MARTHA  
GRAY STACY L  
GREEN JERRY  
GROGAN PATRICIA A  
GULLBERG FARMS INC  
GULLBERG WILLIAM K  
GULLBERG WILLIAM K  
GUYMON KENT  
HAMMAN KATHRYN D  
HANCOCK LAND CO  
HANSON BRENT  
HANSON MARK E  
HARMONY TWP SUPVR  
HARRIS CHUCK  
HARRIS STEVE  
HART JAMES E  
HASTEN CERECE  
HECKENBERG CAREN A  
HEISLER MICHAEL  
HENDRICKSON MICHAEL  
HESTER HELEN R  
HINMAN JOAN Z  
HINRICHS FRED E  
HITZ HAROLD  
HOBBY GARY L  
HOCKER R S  
HOLMES LLOYD  
HOLST MARK H  
HOSTO RUTH E

HOUSEWRIGHT M O  
HUMES JAMES L  
HUMPHRY DOLA R  
HUMPHRY RAY  
HUSTON FRANCES  
ILLINOIS NATURAL  
HISTORY  
JACOBS JOYCE I  
JEFFERSON MARIBETH  
JOHNSON BETTY  
JOHNSON FARMS  
JONES ANNA MARY  
JONES JAMES C  
JONES JUDITH C  
KECK DAVID  
KISTLER CO CONTR  
KLINGLER NAOMI  
KNISLEY HENRY  
KNOWLES CHARLES R JR  
KNOWLES MARJORIE A  
KNUPP CAROL  
KOEHLER GLADYS  
KRAFT GUY C P  
KREIS MIKE  
KRIEG GALEN  
KROW PATRICIA  
KRUSE WALTER H  
KUNZ IRENE  
KUPER RANDALL  
LANNING GLADYS  
LAST ADAM MINISTRIES  
LAUNER LEO  
LEFFLER BRIAN C  
LEFFLER DAVID C  
LILLARD LEORA  
LIMKEMANN DON  
LIMKEMANN DON  
LION HART FARM  
LITCHFIELD FAYE  
LITTLE HAZEL MAE  
LITTLE HAZEL MAE  
LITTLE LOIS  
LITTLE RANDY M  
LOGAN GARY W  
LOMAX SADDLE CLUB  
LONG LYDIA  
LOVE BROS  
LOWE KENT H  
LUKENS DALE G  
LYBARGER DALE  
MANLEY B J  
MARBOL CUFT INC  
MARKEY WENDELL  
MARSHALL DAVID  
MARSHALL ELDA MAE  
MARSHALL ENID  
MARTENS RAYMOND  
MCALLISTER NORMAN  
MCCLINTOCK REALTY  
MCDONALD REX E  
MCENTEE CARL F  
MCGAUGHEY DONALD E  
MEADO ROBERT W  
MEEKER ARTHUR R  
MEISTER JACK R  
MILLER DANIEL F  
MILLER LEWIS L

MITTERMYER OSCAR S  
MODRELL LIZ  
MOHR HELEN  
MONNIER DAVID E  
MORRIS TIM S  
MOSS DUZANSKY  
MULCH DONALD A  
MURPHY IRENE M  
MYNATT REX D  
NAGEL DONALD  
NAGEL WALTER  
NEFF ELDON  
NEFF GLEN  
NICOR GAS  
NOLDEN WILLIAM E  
NUDD KAREN  
NYE FRANKLI  
OARD ROBERT T  
OLSON FRANK L  
OTTE DARRELL  
OVERTON DONALD  
PARQUET CLARA J  
PEASLEY C RICHARD  
PENCE BEULAH  
PENCE WAYNE  
PETERSON NEOLA M  
PIPER FRANK  
POWELSON TIM  
PRICE BETTY L  
PRIEBE KRIS  
PRUNTY MORRIS E  
PURDY DARLENE  
PURTLE LEONA  
QUESENBERRY CLINTON JR  
RAMPLEY ETHEL EILEEN  
RAMPLEY THELMA M  
RAND HAROLD N  
RANDALL JOHN D  
RANDALL RON  
RANG MORRIS E  
RAY SCOTT E  
REA MIKE  
REDDING RUSSELL  
REDENTIUS PATRICIA  
ROCKY RUN SOFTBALL  
ASSOC  
RODEFFER JOHN H  
RODEFFER WAYNE C  
ROGERS PAULINE M  
ROMER O MITCHELL  
ROSKAMP DAVID  
ROWLAND MARGARET  
RUHS MARY C  
RUMSEY JAMES  
SARTORIUS RICHARD  
SCANLAN DORIS J  
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SCHEETZ LEROY  
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SINELE LINDA  
SLATER PAUL R  
SMART JAMES R  
SMITH JERRY L  
SMITH RICK L  
SMITH RICK L  
SNYDER DONNA M  
SNYDER DOROTHY M  
SONORA TOWNSHIP  
SPARROW HAROLD  
SPARROW JERRY D  
STAFF ARLENE  
STEELE L D  
STEPHENS GLADYS F  
STEPHENS ROBERT F JR  
STEVENSON EMERALD  
STONEKING TIMOTHY B  
STOUT DANIEL R  
STRATTON FRIEDA  
SUMMERS JENNIFE R L  
SUTTON STEVE  
SYMMONDS MICHAEL  
TALBOTT GARY  
THOMPSON BYRON  
THORPSON ROBERT L  
TIMMERMAN BARBARA  
JEAN  
TISOR MARK  
TOBIAS JOHNNIE M  
TODD ROBERT E  
TORRANCE RALPH  
VANWINKLE BRENDA  
VILLAGE OF WEST POINT  
WADHAMS KENNETH  
WARSAW GUN CLUB  
WATERMAN CONDA  
WATERMAN HAROLD L  
WATERMAN RICHARD  
WATTS ROBERT E  
WEAR MARY  
WEAR RONALD  
WEPNER ARDATH M  
WHITE TERRY  
WHITSON MARGARET  
WICHMAN MATTIE  
WILDRICK JACK  
WILKENS JOE  
WILKENS PAUL  
WILSON HENRY D  
WISEHART ROCK W  
WOLFORD FRANCES  
WOLLBRINK KELLY  
WOODSIDE DELORIS  
WRIGHT JOHN F  
YOUNG ELLEN M  
YUSKIS DORIS

# WIEC board to review 2019 budget

Each year, Prairie Power, Inc., WIEC's wholesale power provider, projects what it believes WIEC's wholesale cost will be for the following year and how many kilo-watt hours we will sell to our member-owners. We take their projections and build a budget for what we believe will be our revenue and expenses for the next year, which in turn gives them an idea of our margins for the next year.

The wholesale power cost provided by Prairie Power, Inc. for 2019 was about 4 percent higher than the actual power cost they charged WIEC for the first 11 months of 2018. They also

projected WIEC sell less kilo-watt hours than the previous year.

At the last board meeting, the WIEC board looked at the WIEC budget for 2019 to study how these projections will impact WIEC's margins for 2019. Although 4 percent cost increase isn't large, it continues the trend of upward power costs.

WIEC's current rate structure contains blocks within Rate 1 and Rate 3, where the more electricity that is consumed, the lower the cost of the kWh. The selling price of these third blocks is currently less than our wholesale power cost and has not been (859-8)

revised since April 2010. When kilo-watts are sold for less than they are bought, it puts a downward strain on our margins and negatively impacts our cash flow.

After examining our rate structure, it became clear that it may not be in our financial best interest to sell power to the members at a price lower than our wholesale power cost. The board will look at our rate structure and will work to make a rate structure that is fair for all member-owners while keeping WIEC financially strong. More information will be in the March WIEC News.

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## You are more than a customer

By Anne Prince, NRECA

Author Anthony J. D'Angelo observed that "Without a sense of caring, there can be no sense of community."

This reflects WIEC's philosophy toward our member-owners and the service territory we serve. As a co-op, we have a different "bottom line." While our priority is always to provide reliable and safe energy, there is another equally important part of this equation. Your well-being and that of the community we serve.

To us, you are not just a customer; you are a *member* of our co-op. Without you, we would not exist.

In 1938, WIEC was founded to fulfill a vital need in our community. Local farmers came together to build this co-op and bring electricity where there was none.

At that time, community members understood we were different because they likely knew someone who helped create WIEC. For most people, our founding and its circumstances have been forgotten. Over time, folks in the community may have come to think of us as just another energy provider. But we are not. We are a co-op that is

constantly evolving to meet the needs of the communities we serve. We can do this because of members like you.

Since our inception, we have sought feedback and engagement from you and that of the community to guide our decisions. Therefore, we hold Annual Meeting and Member Appreciation Day during the year to engage with you and obtain feedback.

We strive to find new ways to help you use energy efficiently. We look to explore more options that will help manage your energy use such as incentive rates for geothermal heating and cooling and specially priced water heaters. In short, we always seek to keep pace with the changing energy environment, evolving technology and shifting consumer expectations.

WIEC members help guide important co-op decisions that improve and enrich the community. We value the unique perspective of each of our board members brings to the board table. They are members of the co-op and community – just like you.

As a local business, we have a stake in the community. That's why we support local youth organizations such as FFA and 4-H programs. We sponsor the "Best Overall Electricity Project"

at the Hancock County 4-H Fair to spur interest in a career in the electric industry.

Over the past 10 years, WIEC has secured no-interest USDA loans and grants for employers in Hancock County, such as City of Carthage, Memorial Hospital, Dearwester Properties and Prairieland Investment Group. By helping with these expansions, it was our intent to keep good-paying jobs in western Illinois.

In 2009, WIEC received the NRECA's "Community Service Award for Community Investment" award in recognition for our work with the City of Carthage. The loan provided the necessary funding for infrastructure to the new Memorial Hospital.

WIEC has a revolving loan fund that could provide additional funding for businesses expanding or upgrading equipment. These funds are intended to serve to generate economic development. By supporting these efforts, WIEC is supporting the community.

While the times have changed, our mission and outlook have not. We view our role as a catalyst for good. Working together, we can accomplish great things for our community now and in the future.