Holmes-

Wayne

Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

6060 S.R. 83 P.O. Box 112 Millersburg, OH 44654-0112 Business hours 7:30 a.m.- 4 p.m.

24 Hour Toll-free Phone: 866-674-1055 888-264-2694

www.hwecoop.com

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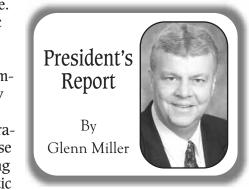
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Efficiency is the key

Last month we explained our commitment and responsibility to inform you, a member-owner of your electric Cooperative, about the very important topics of energy consumption and renewable energy. We also gave you an outline of future articles we'll have in this publication to help you become knowledgeable on every angle of this very pertinent topic.

The future of energy demand will not be solved with one "magical" solution. It will take a combination of factors to not only meet the future energy and environmental needs of America, but also to maintain an economical price.

At Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative, we fully understand the responsibility we have to work to find that combination. Even before energy crises became a topic on national TV, the rural Cooperatives of Ohio recognized those concerns and began exploring options that would be realistic



and limit the economic impact for you, the member.

1. Reduce coal emissions — A large portion of your electricity is generated from coal. As a member-owner of Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative, you also are a member-owner of the Cardinal Station generating facility owned by Buckeye Power. More than five years ago, Buckeye Power began a \$768 million emission upgrade to make Cardinal Station one of the cleanest coal-burning plants in the nation by 2010.

2. Reduce consumption — A reduction in consumption has the potential to have the largest impact on the current energy crisis. Reducing the amount of energy we use would have an immediate positive impact on demand and the environment. Throughout the last year in this publication, Holmes-Wayne Electric has been providing information in the "Conservation Corner," which provides practical ways to reduce energy consumption. Additional energy efficiency tips can be found on our Web site.

3. Renewable energy — Buckeye Power has invested in wind and solar pilot projects in Ohio. The real-time data can be found at our generation Cooperative's Web site — www.buckeyepower.com. Currently, those options are 10 to 12 times more expensive than current coal-generated electricity. Wind energy would cost our consumers \$.74/KWH and solar energy would be \$.80/KWH. Additionally, wind and solar are not constant in Ohio; making them unreliable resources requiring backup generation for times when the wind and sun are not producing power. So a generation facility not only would have to invest in the wind or solar equipment but additional backup generation equipment. Buckeye Power currently is researching more economical renewable energy projects. We will continue to update you in the future of any new programs.

4. EnviroWatts[®] — Last year we introduced to you, the members

(Continue on page 22)

Presidents Report

of Holmes-Wayne Electric, a green energy program called EnviroWatts.

For only \$2 you can purchase 100 KWH of renewable energy. We currently have 14 blocks, or \$28 of renewable energy, that is being purchased by only 10 of more than 16,000 Holmes-Wayne Electric accounts. For additional information, please contact the Cooperative office at 866-674-1055.

We hope the information provided in previous and future articles assists our members in understanding the complicated issues of energy generation and demand. Holmes-Wayne Electric is com-

(-continued from page 21)

mitted to finding the right combination of solutions to provide for a growing demand of our consumers, limit the environmental impact, but maintain a fair and economical price for electricity for our consumers. We encourage you, as the member/owner, to find energy efficiencies in your home and business to make an immediate impact. Also, please utilize the resources available to learn more about renewable and energy generation, and participate in green energy programs.

As a member/owner of Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative, you have the "power" to make a difference!

Conservation Corner

Pump up your home's heating and cooling Heat pumps offer efficient option to furnaces, air conditioners

by PAM BLAIR, Ruralite Services

Imagine using a single unit to both heat and cool your home — and saving up to 72 percent on your electricity use, compared to conventional furnaces and air conditioners. That translates into savings on your energy bill and a reduced impact on the environment. An energy-efficient heat pump taps into the outdoors to improve the comfort indoors.

Heat pumps work on the fundamental principle that heat exists in the air and ground even at extremely low temperatures. In the winter, a heat pump extracts heat from outside air and delivers it indoors. To cool a house on hot summer days, it works in reverse, extracting heat from room air and pumping it outdoors.

Because a heat pump moves heat from one place to another — rather than actually creating heat — it is up to four times more efficient than a fossil-fueled furnace.

Air or ground

In moderate climates, an air-source heat pump — which costs about the same as a conventional heating and cooling system — is a good option. By transferring heat between the house and outside air, an air-source heat pump can trim electricity use as much as 40 percent and deliver one and a half to three times more heat energy than the electricity it consumes.

However, the efficiency of most air-source heat pumps drops dramatically in regions with frequent subfreezing temperatures. Because a household in a cold climate needs more heat than the air can provide, the backup heating system runs more often.

Manufacturers are working on new designs to address that problem. Ground-source "geoexchange" heat pumps work well in all climates. Unlike the air — which varies significantly in temperature — the ground remains at a relatively constant temperature a few feet below the surface. Like a cave, the ground temperature normally is warmer than the outside air in the winter and cooler than the air in the summer.

Although initially more expensive, a geothermal system can reduce energy consumption more than 72 percent compared to electric resistance heating and cooling, and more than 44 percent compared to an air-source heat pump.

It also can save 20 to 50 percent in cooling costs, compared to fossil-fueled systems. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, geothermal heat pumps have the lowest lifetime cost of all conventional home-heating systems available.

Buying a heat pump

When shopping for a heat pump, look for the Energy Star[®] label. Air-source systems bearing the label have a Heating Seasonal Performance Factor of 7.7 or more and a Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio of at least 13. Correct sizing to the heating load is critical. For a ground-source system, the Coefficient of Performance is at least 2.8 and the Energy Efficiency Ratio is 13 or greater.

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Are your parents members of an electric Cooperative?

You could win a college, vocational or technical school scholarship of



Contact your electric Cooperative for details on how you can enter.

*First place for each division, boys' and girls'

| Second place: | \$1,750 |
|---------------|---------|
| Third place: | \$1,500 |
| Fourth place: | \$1,400 |
| Fifth place: | \$1,300 |
| Sixth place: | |

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Here are the rules for the Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives, Inc. scholarship competition:

- 1. Applicants must be a son, daughter or legal ward of an Ohio rural electric distribution Cooperative member living on the lines and receiving service at the time of the statewide competition.
- 2. All applications must be submitted (typed) on forms obtainable on request from your participating local electric Cooperative office or at buckeyepower.com.
- 3. All applications must be submitted to the office of that Cooperative by the deadline date of Feb. 15.
- 4. Applicants must have all basic credits for college or proper** vocational or technical school entrance. They must have a current career average of "B" (3.0 on a 4-point scale) or better and must be accepted, then enrolled (when they receive the award), in the accredited college or proper** vocational or technical school of their choice.
- 5. Any applicant who has received a full-tuition scholarship to the school of his/her choice is not eligible for a scholarship from OREC.
- 6. All scholarships must be accepted in the first academic year after proof of enrollment is received by OREC.
- 7. Each electric Cooperative is eligible to nominate two candidates (one in each division) to participate in the statewide competition.

For information contact:

Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative, Inc. or your local high school guidance office for more details on the local and statewide scholarship. 866-674-1055

**Proper vocational or technical schools must educate beyond high school and credits earned must be transferable to a state-accredited college.

Disconnect policy process improvement

Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative makes every effort to provide reliable and economical electricity to every member. In our constant effort to create more efficient processes, Holmes Wayne Electric Cooperative has begun to transform the process involving past-due accounts.

Effective March 1, the following changes will occur in the event of a past due account:

1) We will continue to mail an initial first past-due notice. The past-due notice will be the same including the 2 percent charge for the remaining balance that was not paid by the 20th of the month. A single day beyond the 20th constitutes past due.

2) The second notification delivery process has changed. The Cooperative will be eliminating the hand-delivered door-hanger detailing that you have five days before disconnection of service. This process will be replaced by a Final Disconnect Notice via mail. Just like the previous second notification, the past-due amount must be paid in full or suitable arrangements made at our Millersburg office by the specified due date on the mailed notice.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this program change, please feel free to contact the Cooperative toll-free at 866-674-1055.

Congratulations! Holmes-Wayne Electric would like to recognize the following employees who recently celebrated a milestone in their careers with the Cooperative. Their service is greatly appreciated. Bowe Firebaugh Greg Lemon Mike Martin Shar Milner Class A Lineman Customer Service Rep. Class A Lineman Class A Lineman 5 years 5 years 5 years 5 years Mike Rowe Jeff Young Lisa Gress **Class A Lineman Class A Lineman** Customer Service Rep. 5 years 5 years 10 years **Daryl Reynolds** Stacy Shaw Don Buren Al Schonauer Safety Director **Class A Lineman Board Trustee Class A Lineman** 10 years 10 years 15 years 25 years

24—Country Living/February 2008

Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative Local page