

P.O. Box 427
Bloomfield, IN 47424-0427
812-384-4446 or 800-489-7362
www.udwiremc.com

OFFICE HOURS

7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday
Closed Saturday, Sunday and major holidays

STAFF

Chief Executive Officer:
Brian L. Sparks

Manager of Office and Administrative Services:
Laura Johnson

Manager of Marketing and Customer Relations:
Jill Gilmore

Manager of Operations and Engineering:
Shane Smith

Manager of Energy Services:
Darla Truelove

Superintendent:
Bob Wilson

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- District 1 Jack Knust
- District 2 President James S. Weimer
- District 3 Vice President James A. Jackson
- District 4 David L. Stone
- District 5 Secretary Roger Shake
- District 6 Ronald E. Thompson
- District 7 Treasurer Bill Watkins
- District 8 Jack Benham

SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS

To report service interruptions, call:
812-384-4446 or 800-489-7362
(day or night)

Please have your location number ready when reporting outages.

Routine questions answered during regular business hours.

OUR MISSION...

"To provide our members with electricity and quality, efficient services, while maintaining a financially healthy and rate competitive position in the industry through teamwork, mutual respect and an on-going commitment to our members."

The UDWI REMC blood drive is Thursday, June 16. Come out to join us in giving the gift of life! The drive will be held in the UDWI REMC parking lot from 1:30-4:30 p.m.

CEO'S COMMENTS

It's all about teamwork

Clydesdale horses have always amazed me. Their grace, work ethic and brute strength are inspirational. These beautiful creatures can also teach us a powerful lesson about teamwork.

Did you know an adult Clydesdale weighs between 1,600-2,400 pounds? That's a very strong animal by itself. When working together, these horses can pull many times their body weight.

Because Clydesdales work as a team, a pair of them can pull much more than a horse would be able to individually. We can all learn a lesson from that amazing feat of cooperation, especially in the midst of rising energy costs.

From the escalating price of fuel used to generate electricity, to necessary investments for environmental compliance, costs to generate and deliver power are going up.

The answer is clear. It's up to all of us to change the way we use electricity.

Over the next several months, we're going to be focusing on "Team Up To Power Down." You're going to be hearing a lot about this effort as we inform you about ways you can use electricity wisely and how it can benefit you.



Brian Sparks
UDWI REMC CEO

If you can afford to sit back and watch your power bills go up, then feel free to ignore this information. But if you're looking for ways to hold the line on your power bills, then join this effort.

Individually, you'll see your energy use drop on monthly power bills as you make energy-efficiency improvements in your home or business. As a co-op, if we all reduce our energy use, we'll reduce the need for building new power generation facilities.

Rising energy costs are a fact of life. Increasing prices are too big of a load for one person or one organization to carry. Let's all put the bits in our mouths, and pull together to keep electricity affordable. Let's "Team Up To Power Down!"



UDWI REMC supports education



Seniors — your REMC would like to support you in reaching your educational goals!

Each year, we award nine \$500 scholarships to students within our service territory. For an application, come into the REMC office or download it at www.udwiremc.com.

Recipients and their families will be invited to the REMC to be honored at our annual scholarship reception.

Deadline to apply is June 15!

2011 annual meeting highlights



UDWI REMC employee Dave Patterson shows an annual meeting attendee the dangers of electricity.



Touchstone Energy Cooperatives' Heat Pump Harriet and CFL Charlie are a fascination for the toddler at left.

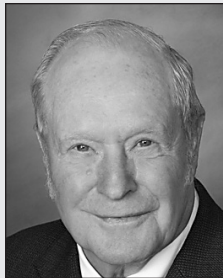


Attendees had an opportunity to visit various booths during the annual meeting.



Tree saplings were also presented to those attending the annual meeting.

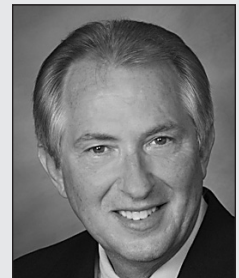
Board of directors election results



Jack Knust
District 1



James Weimer
District 2



David Stone
District 4

Prize drawing winners!

Early bird prize (\$50 gift certificate)

Hybrid water heater prize

Eldest lady in attendance

Eldest gentleman in attendance

Children's prizes (\$30 Pamida gift cards)

Ash Lane

Victoria Worland

Hannah Chapman

Darian Wigginton

Wiley Horn

Brady Anderson

Halea Ramsey

Waylon Hasler

Keaton Hamilton

Makailah Wright

Randall Ramsey

Kenneth Edwards

Helen Stone

Milburn Wever

Marion Kay spices (donated by Brownstown Electric)

\$150 (donated by Electricom)

\$100

\$50 (donated by Monroe Shine & Co.)

\$50

\$50 (donated by HD Supply Utilities)

\$50

\$20 Walmart gift card (donated by United Utility Supply)

\$250

BBQ set and apron (donated by K. Chelsvig of the Vernon Co.)

\$150 (donated by Electricom)

\$100

\$50

\$100 (donated by Asplundh Tree Expert Company)

\$50

\$50 Walmart gift card (donated by Pike Electric)

\$100

\$50

\$50

\$100

BBQ set and apron (donated by K. Chelsvig of the Vernon Co.)

\$50

\$100

\$50 Walmart gift card (donated by Pike Electric)

\$50

\$250

\$25 Stoll's Restaurant gift certificate and a \$25 gift certificate to Triple H Gun Club and Grill on the Hill (donated by Ty Marlow)

\$100

\$50

\$100 (donated by Townsend Tree Service)

\$50 (donated by Ty Marlow)

\$100 (donated by Blue Flame)

Longaberger basket drawing

Longaberger basket drawing

\$500

\$500

First prize of \$1,000

Grand prize of \$1,500

Willetta Brown

Linda L. Diehl

Martha C. Meadows

Allen Toon

Arnold D. Spoonmore

Q-V Automotive

Mary M. Trout

Charles R. Steinsberger

Chrissy S. Porter

Mike F. Mowery

Shon Carter

Duane Borter

David H. Heshelman

Mary Ann Hamilton

Bob O'Neill

Robert L. Metz

Thomas W. Strouse

Charles K. Ramsden Jr.

Betty Lou Corbin

Orval D. Norris

Marilyn D. Hostetler

David R. Spillman

Morris D. Davis

Carolyn C. Ottmers

Michele Coker

Allen D. Deforest

Candace Nail

Douglas M. Roach

Tim E. Ward

Matt V. O'Neill

Mary Lucas

Hobert Thompson

Steven D. Clark

Jeannie Johnson

Charles E. Heacock

Donald L. Borders Jr.

Roland L. Weaver

Randall K. Burch

Take heed of this energy scam

As the saying goes, “If it’s too good to be true, it probably is.” UDWI REMC would like to warn you of an energy-saving scam making the rounds.

“It does save you energy – it just takes you about 70, 80, 100 years to get the payback,” said Brian Sloboda, a program manager at NRECA’s Cooperative Research Network (CRN).

Sold under different names, the gadgets are all basically the same gray boxes. “You just apply it on the outside of your home,” Sloboda said. “Inside the box are some capacitors. The capacitors are just batteries. As the power fluctuates, the batteries, in theory, kick in and level everything out. However, these capacitors are small and have minimal to no effect.”

For commercial accounts, capacitors are useful in helping avoid penalties imposed by some utilities for poor power factor, but they would have to be way bigger than these devices.

“For residential members, it doesn’t do anything,” Sloboda said, because power factor is not an issue for them.

The devices are being sold online – usually on cheap-looking websites – as well as through newspaper ads and door-to-door.

“They’re targeting the elderly, people on fixed incomes and exploiting them,” Sloboda told **ECT.coop** (an industry publication). Prices range from \$200 up to \$600, but, he emphasized, the value of the capacitors inside the box is just a couple of dollars.

Several independent observers have tested the devices. The Electric Power Research Institute tried one claiming to provide a 30 percent energy savings. EPRI found it saved 0.23 percent. At the University of Texas at Austin, the best researchers could get was a 0.06 percent reduction in electric use for an average home.

In the end, CRN’s energy-efficiency advice to consumers is to go for the proven methods, such as installing compact fluorescent lights, turning off and unplugging appliances when not in use, and sealing leaks. If you get a sales pitch for some incredible energy-savings device, take a careful look at what is being sold and how.

“Anything that says it will condition your power or make your motors run better inside your home – just stay away from it. You don’t need it. Keep in mind that if there were a device that really did this, Walmart would sell it,” advised Sloboda.

When you use energy matters to your co-op and to you

Just as you can get cheaper airfare by catching a red-eye flight, using energy when fewer people are pulling electricity out of the grid generally costs your co-op, and ultimately you, much less.

We all use a certain amount of energy. Steady appliances, like refrigerators and air conditioners, create baseload requirements – the minimum amount of power your REMC needs to reliably supply its members.

Consumers tend to use electricity during the same “peak” periods – in the morning getting ready for the day and in the evening when a home lights up with power-draining activities.

Why does your electric co-op carefully monitor energy use or “load” patterns? Its price for wholesale power rises and falls depending on the type of fuel (coal, natural gas, nuclear, hydro, etc.) generating the electricity, which largely depends on the time of day power is used.

For example, generating base-load power with coal costs far less than starting up a natural-gas peaking plant to meet peak consumption on summer afternoons or winter mornings. You can help hold down costs by keeping an eye on the clock when you use power. — NRECA, Cooperative Research Network

Debunking myths about lightning

Myth or truth?

If it’s not raining and it isn’t cloudy, I’m safe from lightning.

You should never touch a lightning victim or you will also be electrocuted.

If I’m in a house, I’m safe from lightning.

If trapped outside and lightning is eminent, lie flat on the ground.

All of the above are common misconceptions.

As part of its new “Teach Learn Care” TLC campaign, Safe Electricity urges everyone to be sure their loved ones are aware of the dangers associated with lightning and how to protect themselves.

Often underrated, lightning kills more people per year than either tornados or hurricanes and causes billions of dollars in damage. Given these statistics, it’s extremely important to take lightning seriously and to stay educated on lightning safety.

“Plan outdoor activities around the weather and be prepared to seek shelter if the weather turns threatening,” said Molly Hall, Safe Electricity’s executive director. “If thunderstorms and lightning are approaching, the safest location is indoors away from doors and windows with the shades drawn. Avoid water, electric appliances and other objects that could conduct electricity. Use only cordless or cell phones to make emergency calls.”

Phone use is the leading cause of indoor lightning injuries in the U.S. A direct strike is not necessary for lightning voltage to enter your home through phone lines, electrical wires, cables and plumbing. Other recommendations to avoid

lightning shock and damage include:

- Turn off and unplug appliances well before a storm nears – never during. Don’t expect a surge protector to save appliances from a lightning strike, unplug it as well.

- Stay away from electrical outlets, appliances, computers, power tools, and TV sets. Take off headsets and stop playing video games.

- Turn off your air conditioner to protect the compressor from a power surge and avoid a costly repair job.

- Avoid water and contact with piping, including sinks, baths and faucets. Don’t wash dishes or shower or bathe during a thunderstorm. Also avoid washers and dryers since they not only connect with the plumbing and electrical systems, but also contain an electrical path from the outside through the dryer vent.

- Do not lie on the concrete floor of a garage as it likely contains a wire mesh.

- Basements typically are a safe place to go during thunderstorms, but avoid concrete walls that may contain metal rebar.

- Don’t forget your pets. Dog houses are not lightning-safe and dogs chained to trees can easily fall victim to a strike.

Lightning can strike up to 10 miles from the area in which it is raining and you do not have to see clouds. This means that if you can hear thunder, you’re within striking distance. A good idea is to use the “30-30 Rule.” According to this rule, if you count less than 30 seconds between a lightning flash and the thunder following it, you should seek shelter. When the storm is over, wait 30 minutes after the last lightning strike you

see before going back outside.

If you are caught outdoors during a thunderstorm and are unable to seek shelter, take the following precautions:

- Try to take shelter in a vehicle with a solid metal roof. Close the windows and avoid contact with electrical conducting paths, such as the steering wheel, ignition, gear shift, or radio.

- Avoid water, high ground, or open spaces.

- Do not seek shelter under tall, solitary trees; canopies; small picnic or rain shelters; or in any open-frame vehicles such as Jeeps, convertibles, golf carts, tractors or mowers.

- Do not stand near power, light or flag poles; machinery; fences; gates; metal bleachers; or even other people. If you are in a group, spread out so that you are at least 20 feet apart.

- If your skin tingles or your hair stands on end, lightning may be about to strike. Squat down low to the ground with your head between your knees, making yourself the smallest target possible.

If a person is struck by lightning, call 911 and care for the victim immediately. You are not in danger of being electrocuted by the victim. Ninety percent of lightning victims survive with timely medical treatment.

More information on lightning safety can be found at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration website at www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov.

Safe Electricity is an electrical public awareness program created and supported by a coalition of several dozen organizations, including Indiana’s electric cooperatives. For more information, visit its website at www.SafeElectricity.org.

CO-OP NOTES

Rate schedule

Schedule "R" – residential service

Seasonal Rate Schedule (as of April 1)

Facilities charge.....\$32 per month

Summer (June, July, Aug.).....\$0.12 per kWh

Winter (Dec., Jan., Feb.).....\$0.11 per kWh

Shoulder (March, April, May, Sept., Oct., Nov.)

.....\$0.08769 per kWh

The above rates are subject to a Purchased Power Cost Adjustment Tracking Factor, in accordance with the order of the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, approved Dec. 17, 1976, in Cause No. 34614, and fuel adjustment clause.

Budget billing

Our BUDGET BILLING PLAN allows you to budget your payments over the course of the year to improve your financial planning. With our BUDGET BILLING PLAN, you know each month exactly how much your electric bill is going to be.

The monthly billing amount is determined by averaging the kilowatt-hours used for the previous 12 months, and the payment is figured using the current rates. The member agrees to pay the budgeted amount each month for 11 months. However, actual use is recorded on each month's billing statement to allow the member to track his or her use throughout the year. In the 12th month, the member either pays the difference in what was actually used, or receives a refund if there is an overpayment.

The BUDGET BILLING PLAN is offered to members who have had electric service with the co-op for at least one year.

Applications for BUDGET BILLING are available throughout the year; however, members can only join the program from April 1 through Sept. 15. June is the first billing month of the program, with May being the 12th, or settlement, month.

For more information about UDWI's BUDGET BILLING PLAN call 384-4446 or 800-489-7362.

Payment options:



We accept Mastercard, Visa, Discover, and American Express credit and debit cards for payment.

Pay your electric bill online with just the click of the mouse. 1. Go to www.udwiremc.com 2. Click a) Log in or b) create a new account **Be sure to provide a valid e-mail address 3. Go to the Pay Your Bill option. (The amount of your bill will be displayed). 4. You will be asked to provide your credit card information — including expiration date. 5. Click on the Submit button. 6. You will receive an e-mail confirmation (to the address you provided) once your payment is processed.

If you are interested in paying your electric bill online, please call 812-384-4446 or 800-489-7362 to verify your password before logging on.

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



Mike Chapman

Mike Chapman represented UDWI REMC at the Clay City Resource Fair on April 14. Passersby enjoyed his demonstration of general safety practices and the equipment used by linemen. Much positive feedback was received following his demonstration. If you would like to include the REMC's safety demonstration as part of a local event, please call our office. We would be happy to speak with you.

Thank you, Mike, for a job well done!

WORK ANNIVERSARIES



Judy Barker
June 22
37 years



Tracy Deckard
June 22
24 years



Connie Huffine
June 12
39 years



Bill Messick
June 5
44 years



Matt Miller
June 20
14 years



Bob Wilson
June 26
44 years

Thank
You

Have you received outstanding service from an employee at UDWI REMC? If so, let us know. Your comment could determine our next *Employee of the Month*. Send a note to: UDWI REMC, c/o CEO Brian L. Sparks, P.O. Box 427, Bloomfield, IN 47424 or via e-mail at remc@udwiremc.com.

A Touchstone Energy[®] Cooperative

