



April 2014

RURAL
MISSOURI

Sac Osage Electric Cooperative

News

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Attention Members in Districts 4, 5 & 6

The term of the director who represents your district will expire on June 10, 2014, the date of the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Members of Sac Osage Electric Cooperative. If you are a member of district 4, 5 or 6, a Nominating Petition is inserted inside this issue. Use the petition if you would like to nominate a candidate for director from your district.

2014 Annual Meeting

June 10, 2014, has been set as the date for the Annual Meeting of the Members of Sac Osage Electric Cooperative, Inc. On the date of the meeting the three-year terms of Ray Higgins, Brad Thompson and Ronald (Gene) Brockus will expire.

According to the Bylaws of the Cooperative, a Nominating Petition is to be mailed to each member who resides in a district in which a vacancy will exist on the date of the Annual Meeting. Therefore, members in districts 4, 5 and 6 will find a Nominating Petition inserted in this issue of Rural Missouri. The petition includes instructions for nominating a qualified member as a candidate for a position on the Board of Directors.

Sections from the Bylaws of the Cooperative pertaining to the Annual Meeting appear on the inside cover of this issue. Please read those sections for more information about the Annual Meeting and the nomination and election process. Complete copies of the Bylaws are available at the office of the Cooperative.

This year only members in districts 4, 5 and 6 are eligible to receive a ballot for the director election and of those three districts, only members in districts with more than one nominee will receive ballots. If you have a question about which district you live in, please refer to your electric bill. Your district number appears in a box labeled "Board District".

This year's Annual Meeting will be held at the Cooperative's headquarters facility located at 4815 E. Highway 54, El Dorado Springs, Missouri (two miles east of El Dorado Springs on Highway 54). Member registration will begin at 5 p.m. and close at 6:30 p.m. The business Meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m.

This year the Official Notice of the Annual Meeting will be published in the June Rural Missouri issue and will include Ballots as required by the Bylaws.

Sac Osage Electric Cooperative

District 4

Ray Higgins represents members in District 4. Mr. Higgins is not eligible to seek re-election in his district at the 2014 Annual Meeting.

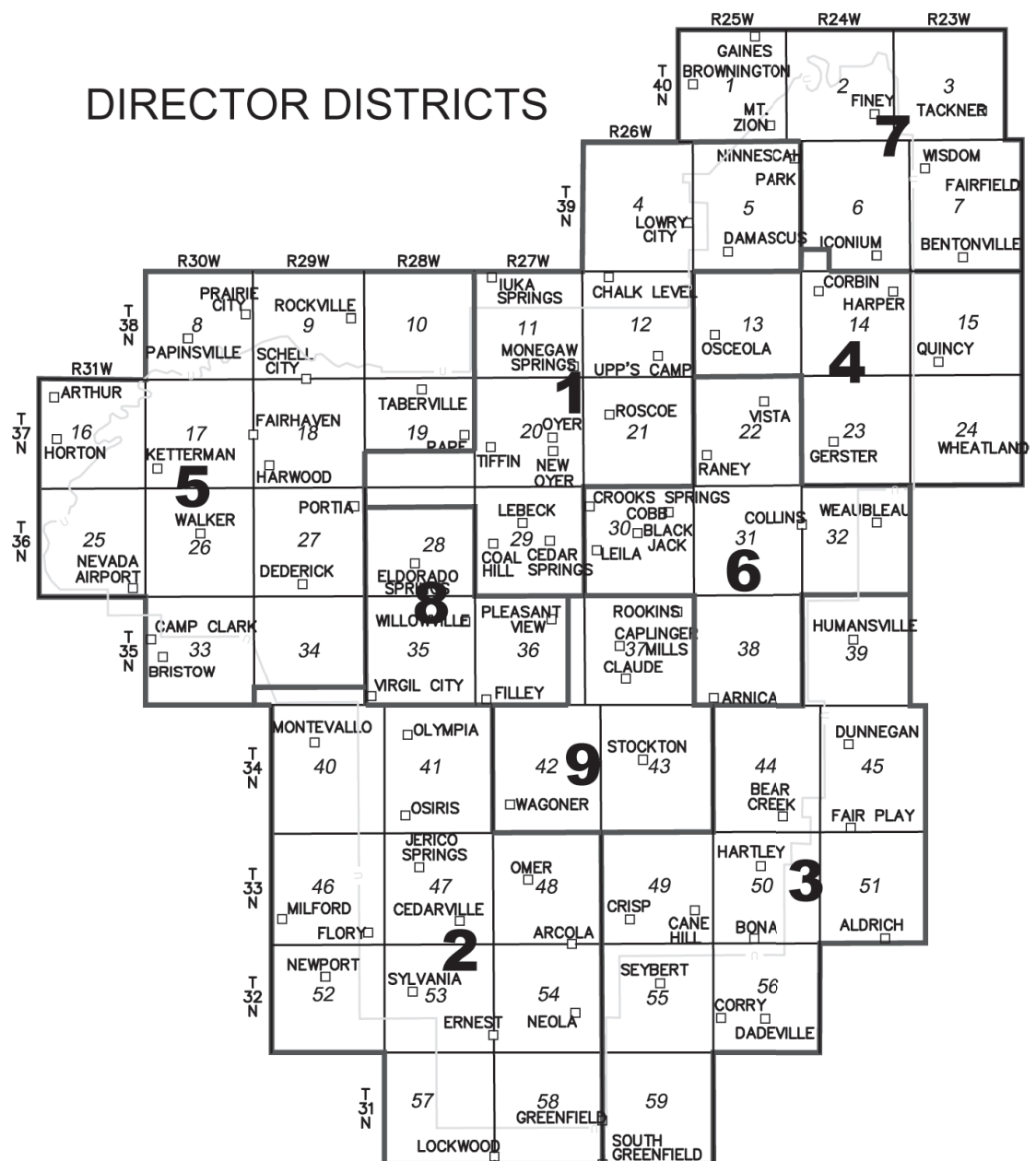
District 5

Brad Thompson represents members in District 5. Mr. Thompson is not eligible to seek re-election in his district at the 2014 Annual Meeting.

District 6

Ronald (Gene) Brockus represents members in District 6. Mr. Brockus plans to seek re-election in his district at the 2014 Annual Meeting.

DIRECTOR DISTRICTS



2014 Annual Meeting Tuesday, June 10

The 2014 Annual Meeting of the Members of Sac Osage Electric Cooperative, Inc. will be held Tuesday, June 10, 2014. The following sections from Articles I, III, and IV of the Bylaws explain the requirements for membership and the election process.

ARTICLE I - MEMBERSHIPS

SECTION 1. Requirements for Membership.

Any person, entity, firm, association, corporation, or body politic or subdivision thereof will become a member in SAC OSAGE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE (Hereinafter called the cooperative") by:

- a. filing a written application for membership therein;
- b. actually purchasing from the Cooperative electric energy as hereinafter specified; or, in the case of a small power producer or co-generator being interconnected with the Cooperative's line system;
- c. agreeing to comply with and be bound by the articles of incorporation and bylaws of the Cooperative and any rules and regulations adopted by the board, and d. paying the membership fee hereinafter specified; No person, entity, firm, association, corporation or body politic or subdivision thereof may hold more than one membership in the Cooperative, and no membership in the Cooperative shall be transferable, except as provided in the bylaws. No person, entity, firm, association, corporation or body politic or subdivision thereof holding membership in the Cooperative shall have more than one vote on any matter properly coming before the membership at any annual or special meeting thereof, irrespective of the number of services or connections that member may have.

ARTICLE III - MEETING OF MEMBERS

SECTION 1. Annual Meeting.

The annual meeting of the members shall be held on such day after the first of June and prior to the first day of October of each year as shall be fixed by the Board beginning with the year 1951 at such place in the County of Cedar, State of Missouri, as shall be designated by the Board.

The annual meeting shall be held for the purpose of electing directors, passing upon reports for the previous fiscal year and transacting such other business as may come before the meeting. It shall be the responsibility of the Board to make adequate plans and preparations for the annual meeting. Failure to hold the annual meeting at the designated time shall not work a forfeiture or dissolution of the Cooperative.

SECTION 5. Ballot.

A ballot if required shall be mailed to each member with the notice of meeting. The ballot so mailed shall constitute the sole and only official ballot to be cast by a member pursuant to Section 7 of this Article or in person at the meeting in accordance with Section 6 of this Article. In the event a member fails to receive a ballot or loses or misplaces his ballot, he may make and deliver a sworn affidavit to that effect and shall be issued another ballot, provided however, the affidavit must be delivered to the office of the Cooperative no later than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the membership meeting.

No additional ballots shall be issued after twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting. The ballot may be in two (2) parts and shall be printed or mimeographed. The first part of the ballot shall list the candidates, if there are two (2) or more, standing for election to the office of director from that member's district who have been nominated by nominating petition as provided in Section 4 of Article IV.

The names of the candidates shall be arranged by district in the order the nominating petitions were received by the Cooperative. The second part of the Ballot shall list the propositions, if any, requiring special notice and any other proposition which, in the discretion of the Board, should be put to a vote of the membership.

SECTION 6. Voting.

Each member shall be entitled to only one vote upon each matter submitted to a vote at a meeting of the members in accordance with Section 1 of Article 1. All questions shall be decided by a vote of a majority of the members voting thereon in person or by mail, except as otherwise provided by law, the articles of incorporation or these bylaws.

All voting for directors, removal of directors or bylaws amendments shall be by secret ballot, provided however, the board may adopt a reasonable method of controlling the validity of any ballot. If a membership is held in the name of the husband individually or the wife individually then only the husband or the wife, as the case may be, may cast the vote represented by the membership. If a membership is held in the name of a husband and wife jointly, then either the husband or wife, but not both, may cast the vote represented by the membership.

SECTION 7. Mail Voting.

Any member may cast his, her, or its vote by mail or by delivery of his ballot to the office of the Cooperative upon any proposition submitted to a vote at any annual meeting of the members except a vote at an annual meeting for the removal and replacement of a director(s) pursuant to Article IV, Section 6. Such member voting by mail shall enclose the ballot in a sealed, stamped envelope addressed to Inspectors of Election, c/o the

Cooperative at the principal office of the Cooperative, deposit same in the United States mail with sufficient postage to insure delivery. All ballots received up to the hour of convening the member meeting shall be held and delivered unopened to the inspectors of election, who shall open, verify and count such ballots at the time other ballots are counted.

ARTICLE IV - DIRECTORS

SECTION 2. Election and Tenure of Office.

The persons serving as directors on the day of the adoption of this amendment shall compose the Board of Directors until the first annual meeting following the adoption of the amendment of this article to be submitted to the membership on June 8, 1976, or until their successors have been elected and shall have qualified. Beginning with the annual meeting held in the year 1977, the directors of the Cooperative shall be divided into nine districts numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9. The terms of office of the directors of Districts 1, 2 and 3 shall be for a term of three (3) years and they shall be elected at the annual meeting in 1977 and shall expire at the annual meeting in 1980; the terms of office of the directors serving in Districts 4, 5 and 6 shall be for a term of three (3) years and they shall be elected at the annual meeting in 1978 and shall expire at the annual meeting in 1981. The terms of office of the directors of Districts 7, 8 and 9 shall be for a term of three (3) years and they shall be elected at the annual meeting in 1979 and shall expire at the annual meeting held in the year 1982.

At each annual meeting after the annual meeting held in 1979, three directors shall be elected by ballot for a term of three years, such directors to be elected from the districts served by those directors whose terms are expiring, or until their successors shall have been elected and shall have been qualified for a three year term in the order and sequence above set forth as to the nine numbered districts. If an election of directors shall not be held on the date designated herein for the annual meeting or any adjournment thereof, the

Board of Directors shall cause the election to be held at a special meeting of the members or as soon thereafter as practical. No member of the Board of Directors shall serve more than three (3) consecutive terms. This limitation shall apply upon completion of a current director's term and any director who has served three (3) consecutive terms shall not be eligible for reelection for a period of three (3) years. Any member appointed or elected to fill a vacancy on

the Board of Directors who serves at least one-half of a term of office shall be considered to have served a term in that office.

SECTION 4. Nomination and voting.

Not later than sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting it shall be the duty of the Secretary to prepare or cause to be prepared and mailed to each member residing in the districts in which vacancies will exist at the annual meeting a form of nominating petition. The nominating petition shall inform the members that a vacancy will exist in their district at the annual meeting, the name of that incumbent and whether the incumbent intends to seek reelection.

Within twenty days following the mailing of the nominating petitions any qualified member may be nominated as a candidate for election to the office of director in any district in which the candidate resides and a vacancy will exist at the forthcoming annual meeting. The nominating petition shall state the date upon which the nominating process will close, which date shall be the twentieth day following the mailing of nominating petitions to the members. A qualified member shall be nominated when a petition naming that member is timely delivered to the office of the Cooperative signed by fifteen (15) members residing in the district in which the vacancy will exist. No member shall sign more than one nominating petition.

In the event two (2) or more petitions contain the signature or signatures of members who have signed petitions previously submitted to the Cooperative, the signature shall not be counted on any petition after the first petition bearing the same signature has been submitted. Following closure of the nominating process, no further nominations shall be received, and in those districts in which two (2) or more persons have been nominated it shall be the duty of the Secretary to prepare and mail or cause to be prepared and mailed along with the notice of meeting as described in Article III, Section 3, the official ballot as described in Article III, Section 5.

The ballot may be mailed, in accordance with Article III, Section 7, or voted in person at the membership meeting in accordance with Article III, Section 6. Only those members residing in districts in which vacancies on the board will exist at the annual meeting shall be mailed part one of the ballot. Part two of the ballot, if there shall be a part two, shall be mailed to all members. If only one (1) person is nominated for the position of director in any district, ballots shall not be mailed and the person nominated shall be deemed elected at the annual meeting of the members.

Any director elected without opposition shall commence serving immediately after the election results are announced at the annual meeting of the members. Each properly nominated candidate shall be entitled to submit to the Cooperative a biographical sketch and position paper which shall be included with the notice of meeting. The biographical sketch and position paper shall not exceed five hundred (500) words in length. The Cooperative shall be entitled to delete from the materials submitted by a candidate any statements which may be deemed obscene or defamatory of any other candidate.

The Cooperative shall have absolute discretion in determining whether the statement contains obscenities or defamation. Each member of the Cooperative voting by mail or in person shall be entitled to vote only for one candidate residing in the same district as that member. No member shall be entitled to vote in any district election in which the member does not reside. The candidate from each district receiving the highest number of votes cast by mail and in person shall be elected to the board representing the district in which he resides even though such candidate may not receive the majority of votes cast for candidates from that district. Ties between two or more candidates shall be resolved by a coin toss or tosses.



HOME COMFORT

Improving the efficiency of old doors

Making your home's entry efficient without breaking the bank

Dear Jim: My front door is wood with a window, and my back door is metal. They are original and neither is very efficient nor airtight. I can't afford new ones. How can I improve their efficiency myself? - Al R.



by Jim Dulley

Dear Al: Energy losses from inefficient entry doors can account for a significant portion of your monthly utility bills. When leaky doors create drafts, people tend to set the furnace thermostat higher. This wastes even more energy.

There are ways to improve the efficiency of old doors, but don't immediately eliminate the possibility of installing new ones. The costs of some well-insulated steel and fiberglass doors, especially those for the back door without glass, are very reasonable. A pre-hung door in its own frame is not difficult to install yourself.

Before making a decision, carefully inspect your old doors. If they are in bad condition, it will be difficult to improve their efficiency by a meaningful amount. First, make sure the wood door is not rotting. Then, place a long straight edge across the door to see if it is badly warped.

The most common problem with metal doors is rust buildup, not warping. Check along the bottom by the weatherstripping on either side. Rainwater tends to collect there, and it is not always painted well.

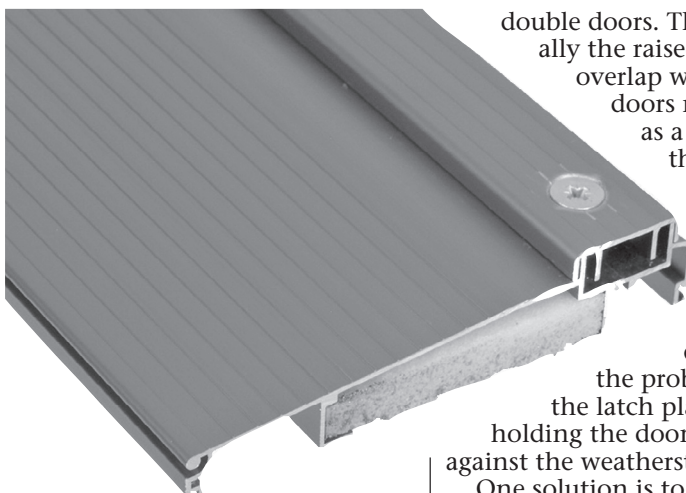
If you find small holes rusted through, they can be repaired with car body filler and then painted. Try to determine the reason water is collecting there and correct the problem. Clean out as much rust as possible and fill with automobile body filler.

If the doors are reasonably sound, check for the location of the air leaks. At night, have someone shine a flashlight from outdoors around the seals and check for light indoors. This will highlight significant leaks. On a windy day, move a stick of lighted incense around the seals and watch the trail of the smoke to find the minor leaky areas. Check the astragal on



photos courtesy of Pemko Manufacturing

The astragal seal between double doors is a common location of air leaks, so replace the seal or the entire piece of molding. This covers the gap between the doors.



double doors. This is usually the raised half-round overlap where pairs of doors meet and acts as a seal between them.

Often with wood doors, especially ones with compression weatherstripping, the problem is simply the latch plate is not holding the door tightly closed against the weatherstripping.

One solution is to reposition the latch plate. This will require filling in the old screw holes and drilling new ones. Chisel away some of the wood in the recess for the latch

This replacement door threshold is made of all durable aluminum and can be adjusted up and down.

plate. Another option is to install an adjustable latch plate. You may want to reposition it for summer and winter as the door and frame expand and contract from seasonal temperature and humidity.

Steel doors should feature magnetic weatherstripping, so this is not a major issue because the weatherstripping is drawn against the door edge. Just make sure the surface of the door and the weatherstripping are clean and smooth. Paint on the door edge can sometimes come loose in small pieces and create a gap that leaks air.

Check the condition of the hinges and replace them if needed. If the hinges and pins are worn, the door will not hang square in the opening and won't seal properly. There are many different sizes of hinges, so take an old one along to the store to get an exact match. Don't just buy the cheapest ones because there are many to choose from and quality varies.

It is almost certain the seal on the bottom of the doors against the floor threshold is worn. If it is not worn, adjust the floor threshold higher. There are several height adjustment screws across the threshold, but after years of use, they may be filled in with dirt. Poke around to find them. If the seal itself is bad, there are many generic replacement seals available.

Another option is an add-on retractable threshold seal that is effective if carpeting is on the floor by the door. The threshold seal is mounted on the inside surface of the lower door edge. When the door starts to open, a pin against the door frame is released, and the seal automatically lifts to clear the carpeting. It is easy to install and adjust.

Door improvement sources:

- Pemko Manufacturing, 800-283-9988, www.pemko.com
- Duck Brand, 800-321-0253, www.duckbrand.com
- M-D Building Products, 800-654-8454, www.mdteam.com
- Thermwell, 800-526-5265, www.frostking.com

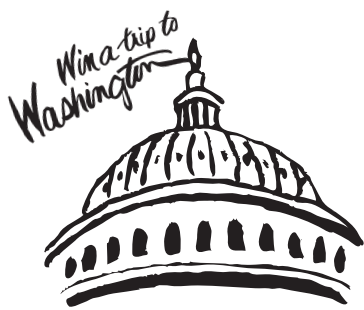
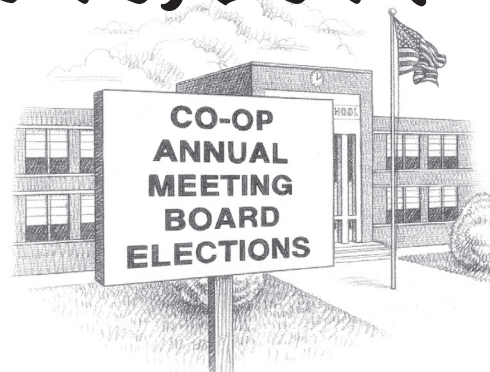
Have an energy-efficiency question for Jim? E-mail him at contact@dulley.com or write to: James Dulley, Rural Missouri, 6906 Royalgreen Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45244. Visit www.dulley.com to read past articles on energy efficiency.



Annual Meeting to be held June 10, 2014

The Board of Directors has set Tuesday, June 10, 2014, as the date for Sac Osage Electric Cooperative's Annual Meeting. Director elections for District 4 (Osceola area), District 5 (Walker area) and District 6 (Blackjack/Vista area) will be held according to the Cooperative's Bylaws. Information regarding the nomination process for directors in these districts can be found inside the front and back cover pages of this edition.

Details regarding the Annual Meeting event will be forthcoming in the June SAC OSAGE NEWS.



Youth Tour Deadline —

There is still time if you are a high school junior to enter the 2014 Youth Tour Program. It is a chance to take a "trip of a lifetime" to our nation's capital this summer.

"What is the most important lesson cooperatives should convey to young members?" is the question you will need to answer as you enter the essay contest for an opportunity to travel along with approximately 80 other students from across Missouri to Washington D.C. in June.

Deadline for entering is Friday, April 4th. For more information you may visit our Web site www.sacosage.com or call Janna Dody or Aaron Ash at 417-876-2721 or 800-876-2701.

Spring Planting

Spring planting season is upon us, and Missouri's electric cooperatives encourage you to be careful around power lines and other electrical equipment. Whether running tractors in the fields, moving equipment or setting up irrigation equipment, always look up and pay close attention to the location of overhead power lines and keep equipment far away from them.

"Spring planting time can leave farmers focused on furrows and not the potential for accidental contact from overhead lines," cautions Molly Hall, executive director of the Safe Electricity program. "Make sure you take the time to note the location of power lines."

One of the biggest hazards for farmers is posed by accidental contact with power lines. Typically, power lines over streets and rural areas have a minimal clearance of 18 feet and 12.5 feet over residential private property.

However, in fields these clearances can change due to shifting of soil in the winter, or from new equipment that is larger than what you are used to. Just because that tractor or equipment cleared power lines last year doesn't mean they will clear when you head to the fields this season.

To stay safe around overhead power lines, Safe Electricity urges farm operators and workers to:

- Use a spotter when operating large machinery

near lines.

- Use care when raising augers or the bed of grain trucks around power lines.
- Keep equipment at least 10 feet from lines at all times, in all directions.
- Inspect the height of the farm equipment to determine clearance.
- Always remember to lower extensions when moving loads.
- Never attempt to move a power line out of the way or raise it for clearance.
- If a power line is sagging or low, call the local utility immediately.

"Always remember to periodically look up and be aware of your surroundings," Hall adds. "If you can't safely pass under a power line, choose a different path."

If contact is made with a power line, remember, it is almost always safest to stay on the equipment. Do not step down from the cab. Make sure to warn others to stay away, and call the local utility provider immediately. The only reason to exit is if the equipment is on fire. If this is the case, jump off the equipment with your feet together and without touching the ground and vehicle at the same time. Then, still keeping

your feet together, "bunny hop" away.

Power lines are not the only danger to agricultural workers. Roadway collisions, falls/slips/trips and being struck by objects or equipment rank high on the list for injuries and even fatalities to farmers.

Additional safety tips from Safe Electricity include:

- Always hire qualified electricians for any electrical issues.
- Do not use equipment with frayed cables.
- Make sure outdoor outlets are equipped with ground-fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs).
- When operating a portable generator, make sure nothing is plugged into it when turning it on, and never operate a generator in a confined area. Generators can produce toxic and deadly gasses like carbon monoxide.
- Always use caution when operating heavy machinery, especially when using medication for allergies.

For more farm and electrical safety information, visit SafeElectricity.org.

**Just a freindly reminder
that May is catch up
month for those mem-
bers on Budget Billing.**



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Ceiling fans move air across your skin, making you feel cooler. They do not actually cool the air like an air conditioner does. Turn them off when you leave the room. This is true for all fans, unless they are being used to pull cool air in or to force hot air out of a room.