



*Greg McFarland,
General Manager/
CEO*

Watt's Going On

and line and equipment inspections, to name only a few maintenance items, so that we continue to provide reliable power to your homes and businesses.

Time-of-Use Program

We are still accepting members to participate in the pilot Time-of-Use Program until June 1, 2013. Once committed, you will be on the Time-of-Use rate through February 28, 2014. This program is designed for members who are able to shift their electric usage to off-peak (low-cost) hours.

If you are able to shift the use of large electric appliances and electric heating and cooling loads during the hours when energy demand is low and electricity is less costly to produce, then this program may be able to save you money on your electric bill. The following rates will apply for the Time-of-Use program:

Facility Charge/Month: \$46

Summer High-Cost Hours (June–August, 1:01 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.):
\$0.56510/kwh

Winter High-Cost Hours (December–February, 5:01 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.):
\$0.21930/kwh

Low-Cost Hours (all other hours):
\$0.07340/kwh

To learn more about this program, contact Jackson Electric Cooperative.

Legislation in 2013

As of this writing, I don't have much to report on the legislative scene. In late December, I received an e-mail notifying me that actions on the RICE Rule have been delayed. The RICE Rule, or Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engines Rule, addresses

limitations on the use of emergency engines for emergency demand response and further prohibits the use of on-site generating units for peak shaving and demand reduction as early as May 2013.

Many commercial accounts have backup generators that kick on when a full load control is issued so that production continues without interruption. This rule, if approved, is targeted directly at generator use.

Because of grassroots efforts by many electric cooperatives, legislators, and owners of emergency generators from across the country, the EPA agreed to reconsider its rulings and delayed final actions until January 14, 2013. It is our hope that the EPA will continue to let our consumers use emergency generators to meet their needs so that we can keep our power reliable and competitive.

Safety always! ■

During the past couple of weeks you should have received a district meeting notice if you have a meter in District 1, 6, or 9. It's that time of year when you, as a member, are able to exercise your democratic control by voting for your representation on the Jackson Electric Cooperative's Board of Directors. If you are unsure what district you're in, you can either contact our office or go to www.jackelec.com/your_co-op/directors. Please make every effort to attend your district meeting.

2013 Budget

At the December 2012 board meeting, the 2013 budget was approved. Like with the past budgets, much time and consideration is put into each one. In 2013, we will continue within the constraints of our four-year construction work plan. The \$1.366 million construction project is targeted to upgrading approximately three miles of overhead line for power reliability in the Northfield area near Hwy. 121. This section of line is more than 50 years old.

In addition, our crew will continue throughout the year with right-of-way clearing, pole replacements,

District Meeting Reminder

If you have a meter located in District 1, 6, or 9, your district meeting will be held the week of February 4. Please go to www.jackelec.com for more information.

Scholarships Available to Graduating Seniors

Jackson Electric is once again offering a \$750 scholarship to each one of the high schools in the service territory. **Please contact your high school guidance counselor for more information.**



Students who are home-schooled, enrolled in a private school, or are open-enrolled are also eligible for a \$750 scholarship. Please go to www.jackelec.com/public_relations/scholarships for more information. ■

Ask Your Cooperative

Steve Meyer, Member Services Director



Q: I'm confused about horsepower (hp) ratings of electric motors. I've seen vacuum cleaners with 5.5 hp motors that I can lift with one hand and in the same store, a 3 hp motor sitting on the shelf that I can barely lift with both hands. Obviously, in this case, the 3 hp motor is physically the larger of the two and is likely the more powerful. When comparing equipment that is powered by electric motors, how do I know which motor is really more powerful?

A: Manufacturers often overstate the horsepower ratings of electrical equipment containing electric motors for marketing purposes. When shopping for shop vacuum cleaners, leaf blowers, air compressors, grinders, water pumps, or any other motorized equipment, simply ignore the horsepower claims and look at the electrical draw (amps) of the devices. Generally speaking, any time you are comparing two motors that operate at the same voltage, the one that draws the most amps is the more powerful.

If you are comparing two motors that are rated at different voltages, multiply the amps times the volts to get watts. The motor with the higher watts is the more powerful. For example: One motor is rated at 6 amps @ 120 volts and the other is 6 amps @ 115 volts. 6 amps X 120 volts = 720 watts. 6 amps X 115 volts = 690 watts. The 720-watt motor is the higher of the two and, barring some major efficiency differences between the two, should be the more powerful.

While we are talking about motors, I've heard it incorrectly stated that operating a motor at 240 volts costs half as much to operate than a motor at 120 volts. It is true that when you

double the voltage, the amperage drops in half, but when you use the formula above and look at the watts, they are the same. However, it's always desirable to operate a motor at 240 volts rather than 120 volts whenever possible because a 240 load is a balanced load on the electrical system and because the amperage is half, it can be wired with a lighter wire.

If you have a question to ask Jackson Electric Cooperative, please submit to our office at P.O. Box 546, Black River Falls, WI 54615 or e-mail cblaken@jackelec.com, and put in the subject line "Magazine Question." ■

Congratulations!

Thank you to several members who submitted answers to December's 75th anniversary trivia question. Two winners were randomly selected from those who submitted the correct answer of 1998, the year Jackson Electric Cooperative joined Touchstone Energy. The winners were:

*Lois Murray of Black River Falls
Gary and Susan Rout of Merrillan*



**Jackson
Electric Cooperative's
76th Annual Meeting**
Tuesday, March 19, 2013
7 p.m.
Lunda Theatre, Black River Falls

Electric Heat Spotlight—Electric Thermal Storage (ETS)

Warm your whole house or an individual room with ETS.

ETS technology is designed to store heat during off-peak hours for heating 24 hours a day and utilize Jackson Electric Cooperative's dual fuel rate.

Room-sized ETS storage units are an ideal option for homes without a central duct system. They consist of specially designed bricks stored inside a cabinet. Electricity heats the bricks during off-peak hours when electric rates are lowest. When the thermostat calls for heat, a fan blows



air across the heat-storing bricks to distribute heat throughout the room.

A centrally ducted ETS system can be used as a furnace or can be combined with a heat pump to offer even greater efficiencies and lower operating costs. A hydronic unit may be added to provide radiant floor heating.

For more information on ETS units or other ways to save on your heating bill this winter, contact Jackson Electric Cooperative or go to www.jackelec.com.

Cost Comparison: ETS Unit vs. Fossil Fuel Heat

Type of	Efficiency	Cost/kWh	Propane/gal.	Fuel Oil/gal.	Natural Gas/ therm
<u>Electric Heat</u> ETS Unit	100%	\$0.06	\$1.48	\$1.72	\$1.62

For example: By participating in Jackson Electric Cooperative's dual fuel program, the dual fuel rate is \$0.06 per kwh. That is comparable to paying \$1.48/gallon for a 92% efficient propane heating system, \$1.72 per gallon for heating with a 70% efficient fuel oil heating system, and \$1.62 a therm to operate a 92% efficient natural gas heating system.

Jackson Electric Cooperative

2012 Year in Review

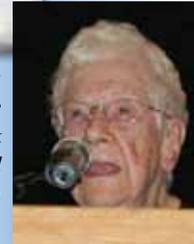


In January, electrical contractors were invited to learn about Jackson Electric's rebates and program guidelines to better serve the membership.



Jackson Electric celebrated 75 years of service to its membership.

Lillian McManners entertains the annual meeting audience with a recall of events that took place when her father solicited members for the cooperative in the 1930s.



Jackson Electric employees elected to donate their Friday Jeans Days funds to area first responder organizations. Thank you for your dedication to our communities!

More than 600 were served at this year's annual member picnic. In observance of the cooperative's 75th anniversary, a pancake and sausage breakfast was served on a Saturday morning. Below: Electric cars were a big hit at the member picnic.



Board president Gary Woods and other cooperative representatives met with Senator Ron Johnson's aides in Washington, D.C.



State Representative Chris Danou recognized Jackson Electric for its 75 years of service to its members.



The annual electronics recycling event continues to be held at Jackson Electric Cooperative.



A hot line demonstration was performed by the line crew for a technology education class at the Black River Falls High School.



Jackson Electric promoted renewable energy at the Green LifeXpo in August.



Jackson Electric Cooperative supports youth at the Jackson County Fair.



Crews get ready to terminate the existing power lines.

Power lines were cut and abandoned across the interstate near the Northfield exit. This is part of the four-year work plan in which overhead lines were converted to underground cable.





Jackson Electric sponsored three students to the Youth Leadership Congress held in UW–River Falls in July. Participants learn, in a fun way, about cooperative principles, their economic purpose in a community, as well as the development of leadership skills.



Jackson Electric Cooperative's Youth Ambassadors volunteered their time, despite the rainy weather, at the Jackson County American Cancer Walk in August.



Summer lineman Hazy Wood got an opportunity to rescue this 180-lb. dummy during a safety training session.



Wisconsin Electric Youth Tour participants in Washington, D.C. Stephanie Pipkin and Erica Olson represented Jackson Electric.



Youth Ambassadors posed for a photo near the top of the Genoa Power Plant.



Snow blanketed the area December 9. Crews restored power to several residences in the service territory after heavy snow caused outages.



Journeyman lineman Matt Bush discussed power line safety at the annual tractor safety session held at the Black River Falls High School.



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The weather did not side with the FFA Cooperative's Test Plot this past summer. Poor yields were reflected from the drought. Fortunately, this gave the students an opportunity to learn about crop insurance.



The test plot yielded 189.6 total bushels and the students sold their yields for \$7.11/bushel. The students held their second annual meeting in December.