



Editor, Patsy Whitehead, CCC

Featured above: Nolin RECC Line Technician, Jarred Gardner,  
7 years of service

## News you can use

# Power of co-op membership

**W**hat does it mean to be a member of Nolin RECC, a Touchstone Energy Cooperative?

As a member of Nolin RECC, you have the power, a voice, and control in how your electric co-op is run; in what's best for the community; in the decisions that allow us to provide affordable electricity for your home. During October, we're celebrating National Co-op Month, and we're recognizing the most important part of our co-op – **YOU, our members and owners.**

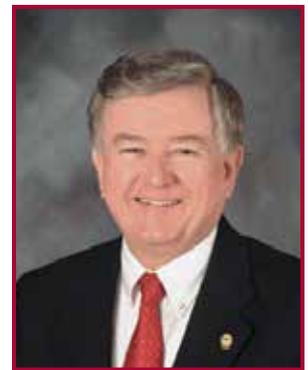
Membership represents a vested interest—everyone is more engaged and attentive to something they feel they own. Touchstone Energy co-ops work to involve their members in all the issues surrounding the co-op. When members are engaged and informed they become advocates for their co-ops, not just consumers. One way we encourage members to become involved is by joining the Nolin Member Advisory Council. Information about the Advisory Council can be found on page 26C.

In today's world, electric co-ops are doing more than just saving money for their members. Touchstone Energy cooperatives make being a member of an electric cooperative a truly unique experience. For example, Nolin offers the Get Green contest to all of its members in honor of National Co-op Month. Get Green offers you a chance to win an electric bill credit – information about this opportunity is on the following page.

Members are the reason cooperatives exist. When members feel they have more than a passing interest in their co-op, and that they actually are the owners, with an ability to help guide it – that's a perfect example of what Nolin strives to accomplish.

The power of co-op membership is the cooperative difference, and our business 'bottom line' is the empowerment of you, our member-owners. Nolin actively engages with the communities we serve. You see us teaching electrical safety classes, sponsoring local events, and serving on civic groups to help improve our community. This community engagement is embraced by Nolin members participating in Operation Round-Up, a voluntary contribution of funds that is deposited into a special account to help community projects.

The best part about being a member of a Touchstone Energy Cooperative? It's **YOUR** Touchstone Energy Cooperative. Power to the people, for the people, from the people.



**Mickey Miller**  
President & CEO



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# GET GREEN leads to new heat pump for Nolin member



## NOLIN IS OFFERING THE GET GREEN PROMOTION AGAIN THIS YEAR

as we celebrate National Co-op Month. Members can enter to win one of 20 \$100 electric bill credits AND a chance to cash in on the \$2,000 worth of home energy improvements.

Deadline for entries is November 30, 2014. Members can enter online at [www.nolinrecc.com](http://www.nolinrecc.com) or by completing the form in the October Nolin RECC bill insert.

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Elizabethtown resident and Nolin RECC member Steve Sherrard didn't tell his wife, Faye, he was entering Nolin's Get Green contest because he didn't think he would actually win! He was surprised last year when the call came from Nolin telling him that his name had been selected as one of 20 to win a \$100 electric bill credit. But when his home was selected to receive the bonus giveaway of \$2,000 worth of home energy upgrades, Sherrard was appreciative beyond words.

"My daughter won a bike at the Nolin annual meeting one year, and we've won a couple of small electric appliances throughout the years at the meetings, but we've never won anything like this before," says Sherrard. "I'm just so appreciative of this prize – I can't thank Nolin enough."

Both Steve and Faye immediately knew how they would invest their Get Green prize, and Nolin RECC energy services

coordinator Todd Drake agreed with the couple's decision. The Sherrards' home, built in 1982, was heated with ceiling cable and during the summer months three window air conditioners worked around the clock to keep the home cool. Both heating and cooling methods were causing the family's energy consumption to drastically increase.

Upon initial inspection of the Sherrards' home, Drake found the insulation in good condition and limited air leaks. But the couple had high winter electric usage caused by their ceiling cable. After Drake's energy analysis, he suggested the Sherrards upgrade to a high-efficiency heat pump.

"The new system has already saved the couple between 300 to 400 kilowatt-hours a month this past summer," says Drake. "It is expected to reduce electric consumption even more this winter."

As last year's Get Green contest winners, the Sherrards were awarded

Nolin RECC Energy Services Coordinator Todd Drake shows Steve and Faye Sherrard their increased energy savings since installing a high-efficiency heat pump.

\$2,000 toward their new heating and cooling system (HVAC), which required installation of a complete duct system. In addition, by installing a 15 SEER heat pump the couple qualified for a \$1,000 (heat pump retrofit) rebate from Nolin. The Sherrards were able to apply the \$3,000 toward the total cost of their new HVAC system.

"We've been planning to install a heat pump for years, but with the prize and rebate combined, it was definitely the right time to make the switch on our heating and cooling," says Sherrard. "I try to take advantage of every opportunity Nolin provides. We attend the annual meetings – I have a pretty good collection of buckets and CFLs. We even use the Co-op Connections Card every chance we can. We're so appreciative of what Nolin RECC has done for us throughout the years."

# We Need YOU for Nolin RECC's Member Advisory Council



Verner and Faye Miller attend a recent Member Advisory Council meeting at Nolin RECC.

The Member Advisory Council (MAC) is made up of interested Nolin members from throughout the service area. Are you willing to give the management and directors of Nolin your ideas and opinions about how the cooperative can best serve the members? Are you willing to help your cooperative better understand the needs of the membership? Are you willing to attend at least two evening meetings per year to learn more about your cooperative's operations?

If you are interested in helping your cooperative and serving on the Member Advisory Council, please complete the form below and mail it to: Member Services Department, Nolin RECC, 411 Ring Road, Elizabethtown, KY 42701-6767, or call (270) 765-6153. The next meeting will be October 28.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Acct. No. \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you want to be a member of the Advisory Council? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



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*One Click.*



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# WWII Veteran Retired Major Ralph L. Reese recalls near death experience

# Angels on hi

By Patsy Whitehead

Retired Air Force Major Ralph L. Reese, of Radcliff, has escaped death several times and says he has witnessed four miracles in his lifetime. He is currently writing a book



USAF Ret. Maj. Ralph L. Reese (93), of Radcliff, is the 2014 Nolin RECC Touchstone Energy Honor Flight recipient

that he intends to donate to the military titled *God's Guardian Angels* and hopes to complete it this year.

Reese joined the Pennsylvania National Guard at age 18 and just a few months later enlisted in the Air Corps at Bolling Field, Washington, DC. A World War II veteran, his 22-year military career would prove to be both dangerous and miraculous.

While serving in the Air Force, Reese



was part of an Intelligence division – his flight missions were highly dangerous and secretive. He carried troop movement orders from Bolling Field to San Francisco six days a week. Reese was part of a five-man flight team traveling on a B-34 bomber coast-to-coast each day. The commanding major on his flight team would be handcuffed to a briefcase

containing vital documents related to troop positions and defense moves during World War II.

Reese, 93, says his first miracle came on August 5, 1942. At that time Reese was a technical sergeant serving as crew chief engineer along with two lieutenant colonels and a radio operator. The team was flying their B-34 bomber low over a

# s wings



(August 5, 1942) The remains of Reese's B-34 bomber lay in a field after crashing near St. Genevieve, MO. Reese was thrown head-first about 20 feet from the aircraft, hitting a tree or stump. Miraculously, he and four others escaped the crash with minor injuries.

wooded area around St. Genevieve, MO, when the plane experienced low fuel pressure.

Recalling the crash, Maj. Reese remembers the details as if it were yesterday, saying, "As we neared St. Genevieve around 11:20 AM, the right engine quit, then shortly after, the left engine quit. Both props feathered and the pilot put the nose down to keep speed as he called out 'Prepare for crash landing.' We could not land in the streets of St. Genevieve, so he chose the woods. I lay down on the floor with my feet facing the front of the plane, and we crashed into the trees doing about 125 miles per hour. The left and right engine broke off the plane, causing the aircraft to spin. The parachute door flew off and I was thrown about 20 feet from the aircraft, head-first."

Reese says, "As soon as I knew we were in trouble I asked God to protect us. We all walked away from that crash with minor cuts and bruises – it was a miracle."

Three other miracles have blessed Reese over the years, but he says there may be more to come. He details the miracles surrounding his life in his soon-to-be-released book.

Putting aside his miraculous flights and concentrating on the present, Reese is scheduled to take the flight of his life in just a few days. On October 2, Ralph L. Reese will take a flight back in time as he travels as Nolin's guest on the Touchstone Energy Honor Flight for World War II



Reese in the mid '40s

veterans. "I have been waiting years for this trip," says Reese. "I've never been to see the World War II Memorial – I'm so honored to be going on behalf of Nolin RECC."

Mr. Reese will travel on Southwest Airlines with other World War II veterans from across Kentucky as part of the Touchstone Energy Honor Flight. Each veteran will be accompanied by a personal guardian as well as staff from the Bluegrass Chapter Honor Flight and representatives from East Kentucky Power Cooperative.

World War II veterans and members of Nolin RECC interested in applying for the Honor Flight are encouraged to submit an application online at <http://honorflightbluegrass.org>. Future recipients of this trip will be selected from the Honor Flight waiting list on a first-come, first-serve basis.

# Protect Your Family—Take Steps to Prevent Electrical Fires in the Home

## Tips for National Fire Prevention Week



The United States Fire Administration reports there are an average of 28,300 residential electrical fires each year, causing 390 deaths, 1,000 injuries, and nearly \$1 billion in direct losses. The National Fire Protection Association notes that 41 percent of those fires were related to home wiring, cords, or lighting.

Safe Electricity wants consumers to be aware that the majority of electrical fires are preventable and offers some simple things to check for around the home:

- Make sure light bulbs are correctly rated for the fixture in which they are being used. Do not use light bulbs with wattage that is too high for the fixture. For example, using a 100-watt bulb in a 60-watt fixture creates the danger of overheating and fire.
- Keep lamps, especially those with halogen light bulbs, away from flammable materials such as drapes, clothing, or paper. Turn them off when you leave the home.
- Look for cracked or damaged cords and loose-fitting plugs on extension cords as well as appliance cords. Replace or repair damaged cords and plugs.
- If an appliance has a three-prong plug, use it only in a three-slot outlet. Never remove the round grounding pin

or force it to fit into a two-slot outlet or extension cord.

- Replace any appliance or tool if it causes even small electrical shocks, overheats, shorts out, or gives off smoke or sparks.
- Switch plates and outlet covers that are discolored or warm to the touch indicate a problem that should be checked out. Immediately shut off light switches that are hot to the touch and have them professionally replaced. Have an electrician check the wiring in your home if you find popping and sizzling sounds in walls, lights that dim when other appliances are turned on, or frequently tripped circuits.
- Use extension cords only temporarily, not as permanent wiring. Don't overload them.
- Do not place cords and wires in dangerous places such as under rugs, in high-traffic areas where they can be trampled, or in tight spaces where heat can build up.
- To prevent overheating, allow air space around heat-producing appliances such as TVs, plug-in radios, stereo sets, computers, and high-wattage lamps.
- Do not exceed 1,500 watts of appliance load for each outlet or circuit.
- Know where your circuit breakers and fuse boxes are and how to oper-

ate them. Make sure the panel door is securely closed.

- When buying electrical appliances, look for products evaluated by a nationally recognized laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL). When using appliances, follow the manufacturer's safety precautions.

Finally, protect your family by checking the operation of the smoke detectors and have an escape plan for everyone in your family. Check detectors every month and replace the batteries twice a year. The National Fire Prevention Agency reports that roughly 60 percent of reported home fire deaths happened in homes with no smoke alarms or alarms that weren't working. Also, develop and practice an escape plan twice a year in case of a fire. A good plan is known by all household members and includes an outside meeting location away from danger of the fire.

If you must attempt to put out an electrical fire, use a Class B/C or Class C rated dry fire extinguisher. Never try to extinguish an electrical fire with water!

Safe Electricity urges everyone to understand how electrical hazards can contribute to fires and to take steps to keep your home and loved ones safe from electrical fires. Learn more at [SafeElectricity.org](http://SafeElectricity.org).



# OCTOBER IS NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH



Every October, cooperatives are recognized for the qualities that make the business model unique. Seven cooperative principles set us apart from other businesses:

- voluntary and open membership
- democratic member control
- member's economic participation

- autonomy and independence
- education, training and information
- cooperation among cooperatives
- concern for community

This Co-op Month, we're focusing on "The Electric Co-op Connection: Discover the meaning of membership." Co-ops exist to serve their members,

but they also play a major role in their local communities.

Nolin RECC is proud to be part of America's cooperative network, which includes more than 47,000 cooperative businesses.



America's Electric  
Cooperatives



[www.nolinrecc.com](http://www.nolinrecc.com)

We're celebrating National Co-op Month this October by giving **20** lucky members

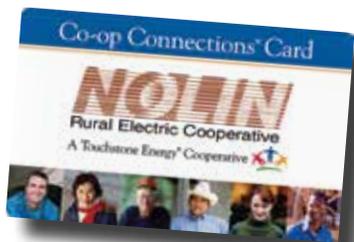
**\$100 bill credits**

and one member will win up to...

**\$2,000** worth of home energy efficiency upgrades

# Co-op Connections at New Outlet Mall

Nolin is excited to announce a new Co-op Connections Card discount with the Outlet Shoppes of the Bluegrass, located in Simpsonville. Members can receive a FREE VIP Coupon Book (\$5 value), which includes discounts of more than \$300 at the stores. Just show your Nolin RECC Co-op Connections Card at Guest Services in the Food Court to receive your FREE coupon book.



For information on the new Outlet Shoppes of the Bluegrass, visit [www.horizongroup.com/bluegrass](http://www.horizongroup.com/bluegrass).

For a complete list of Co-op Connections discounts visit [www.nolinrecc.com](http://www.nolinrecc.com).

## WE HAVE ANOTHER ANNUAL MEETING WINNER

Nolin member and Upton resident Norvella Copelin knows a great opportunity when she sees one! Norvella cashed in on a \$50 electric bill credit by identifying the most people featured on two pages of the August 2014 *Nolin News*. The individuals were attending the Nolin RECC annual meeting in June when their photos were snapped.

Nolin offered the \$50 bill credit as the final annual meeting prize. Participating members did not have to be present at the meeting.

It always pays to read the *Nolin News*...just ask Norvella Copelin!

### We've Got Your \$25 Number! \$25 WIN \$25 Worth of FREE Electricity

*Nolin News* features a contest called "We've Got Your Number." Hidden inside this issue are 2 randomly selected member account numbers. If you spot your account number, contact the Member Services Department at (270) 765-6153, and **win a \$25 CREDIT on your electric bill**. You must identify your number and call by the 15th day of the month's issue containing your number. Account numbers could be anywhere in your *Nolin News*!

### New Member Credits

All members signing up for new service with Nolin receive a short survey. Members who return the completed survey to Nolin are automatically eligible to win a \$20 credit on their electric bill. Each month, one name is drawn and a lucky Nolin member receives a bill credit on their next statement. Congratulations to our latest winner, **Tonya R. Tillis, of Radcliff**.

### Online payments

Access your Nolin RECC account through our Web site at [www.nolinrecc.com](http://www.nolinrecc.com). Click on "YourAccount" to check your consumption history and make payments by debit card, Visa, or MasterCard. To apply for budget billing and automatic draft online, click on "Residential Bill Payment."



### HOW TO REACH NOLIN RECC

#### ELIZABETHTOWN OFFICE

411 Ring Road, Elizabethtown, KY 42701-6767  
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Mon-Fri • (270) 765-6153

#### RADCLIFF OFFICE

101 West Lincoln Trail Blvd., Radcliff, KY 40160  
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Mon-Fri • (270) 351-2199

(Office closed from 12:30-1:30 daily)

**TOLL-FREE BUSINESS CALLS — 1-888-637-4247**

**PAY DIRECT BY PHONE TOLL FREE — 1-855-356-6359**

**EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER — (270) 769-6396**

**EMERGENCY TOLL-FREE CALLS — 1-800-572-1147**

Web site: [www.nolinrecc.com](http://www.nolinrecc.com)  
e-mail: [comments@nolinrecc.com](mailto:comments@nolinrecc.com)

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