

# NOLIN News

Editor, Patsy Whitehead, CCC

Nolin RECC Dispatcher John Mastin, 32 years of service.



## A Tribute to *PAULINE DUFF,* Nolin RECC Pioneer

Mrs. Pauline Walker Duff of Sonora was one of the many folks that are credited with helping to bring electricity to Hardin, LaRue, and nearby counties 75 years ago. In fact, Mrs. Duff was the first person from this area to inquire of the newly established Rural Electrification Administration (REA) in Washington (1935) when she asked about getting electricity into the rural sections of our counties.

Forming a rural electric cooperative was not easy. There were many challenges – money had to be borrowed, equipment purchased, and farmers had to be organized to form a cooperative. Mrs. Duff walked and drove limitless miles explaining the advantages of a co-op and the positive changes electricity would bring to the rural areas. She is credited as being one of the first “pioneers” of Nolin RECC.

It has been said that nothing was too difficult for Pauline Duff to tackle. She was

born Emma Pauline Walker in West Virginia in 1897. After her marriage to Powell Duff in 1925, both she and her husband attended night classes to earn their law degree at the University of Cincinnati. In 1934 the Duffs moved to Sonora and it didn’t take long for Mrs. Duff to gain the respect of her new community.

She was strong-willed and her dedication paid off for Nolin members when the co-op was incorporated in July 1938. On Independence Day, July 4, 1939, Nolin RECC began serving about 800 members located along 150 miles of line.

Mrs. Duff knew how to persuade and motivate people. Following her death in July 1974, the *Nolin News* recalled: “She loved people and wanted to do all in her power to see that they had the things that would make their lives more productive and complete. Farm organizations will be forever in her debt for the unceasing efforts



Mrs. Pauline Duff of Sonora served the members of Nolin RECC as a director from 1938 to 1970.

she made in behalf of the people in this area.”

As we celebrate our 75th anniversary this year, it is fitting to honor this remarkable woman and to pay tribute to her grassroots efforts in bringing us out of the dark.

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# Nolin Presents Energy Lessons at Lincoln Trail Home Builder's EXPO

The 2013 Lincoln Trail Home Builder's (LTHB) Home Design & Remodeling Show was the perfect spot to be February 16 & 17 if you are building a new home or remodeling an existing home. Those attending this year received an invitation to attend free energy seminars sponsored by Nolin RECC and East Kentucky Power Cooperative (EKPC).

Nolin RECC energy services coordinator Todd Drake teamed up with EKPC's energy advisor Josh Littrell and the two explained do-it-yourself home energy improvements, low-cost/no-cost home efficiency upgrades, and new home energy-efficiency requirements for Touchstone Energy Homes and ENERGY STAR Homes.

Drake and Littrell talked with several homeowners about improving energy efficiency. In addition to the energy seminars, Nolin personnel were ready to talk with visitors about home insulation, efficient lighting, heating and cooling equipment, and other co-op related topics.



Mark and Erin Jarvis of Vine Grove stopped by Nolin's booth to discuss their new home's energy needs with Todd Drake.



Todd Drake (left) and Josh Littrell used display boards to show comparisons of different types of insulation and lighting. Two of the boards demonstrate proper energy-efficient building techniques. The display boards were custom built by Drake.

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# Nolin Annual Meeting Set for June 14



**Nolin RECC Annual Meeting**  
Friday, June 14, 2013  
John Hardin High School  
384 W. A. Jenkins Road, Elizabethtown

**D**on't miss this year's Nolin RECC annual meeting on Friday, June 14, at John Hardin High School!

Member registration begins at 5:30 p.m. After members register, they can enjoy the early entertainment, visit the health and exhibit fair, watch the children play games, or relax to a delicious dinner while waiting for the 7:00 p.m. business meeting. Later in the evening, sit back and enjoy Mike Snider and the Mike Snider String Band.

A Grand Ole Opry member since 1990, Mike Snider continues to draw laughter and entertain crowds with his music. His band is sure to be a crowd-pleaser with their heartfelt American fiddle tunes.

**YOUR OWNERSHIP IN NOLIN RECC** is very important. Each year a business meeting is held to discuss issues and new information affecting your cooperative. You have six directors that represent your interests in the co-op, and each one serves a three-year term.

The director election process is designed so that two of your six director seats are up for re-election each year. The two directors completing their term in 2013 are Gene Straney (District 2) and Lawrence Ireland (District 6). Both have agreed to have their names placed on the ballots for re-election to the board.

In early June you will receive ballots in the mail along with your annual meeting official notice. It is your responsibility and privilege to vote for the director of your choice in districts 2 and 6. As a member of Nolin, you are entitled to decide who serves on the board. Please remember to vote during the director elections and return your ballot to Nolin RECC.

# Maintaining right-of-way keeps your lights on

Often you'll see Nolin's crews trimming trees and clearing obstacles from around our power lines.

At some point those crews might need to venture onto your property.

We know this can be inconvenient, and for that we apologize. Please understand that we're only there because we're trying to protect you and your neighbors.

During severe weather, overgrown trees and limbs can collapse into power distribution lines. The tree in your yard can knock out electricity to hundreds or even thousands of people. These outages are costly and create hardships for those whose electric service is interrupted.

Besides causing outages, trees that grow too tall or intertwine with power lines can threaten safety. They may become conductors of electricity, which can be dangerous for your family and pets.

That's why Nolin maintains rights-of-way for our electric lines. A right-of-way is a strip of land that an electric utility legally

can use to construct, maintain, or repair a power line.

The legal easement for a right-of-way allows us to keep the line clear of vegetation, buildings, and other structures that could interfere with line operations.

Nolin also obtains easements for access roads, to get to the power lines, or to build new power lines that will carry electricity to communities or neighborhoods where the population and usage have increased.

We try hard to avoid causing unnecessary inconveniences for you, even when we have to work on or near your property. We only do such work if it's necessary.

If we must come onto your land, if

possible, we call ahead to tell you we'll be there and explain why. We want you to always be informed about what's going on.

It's never our goal to cause a problem. Our goal is to protect you and bring you the safest, most reliable, and affordable electric service possible.



## Save energy. Help the environment. Pocket the rewards.

Sign up for **SimpleSaver** and pocket the rewards.

We will credit your bill up to \$20 annually for each central air conditioner you enroll. Sign up your 40-gallon or greater electric water heater and receive an additional \$10 annual credit. In exchange, we install a switch to cycle the units briefly when electrical demand peaks.

**SimpleSaver**...saving energy just got more rewarding.

1-800-305-5493  
www.simplesaver.coop

**NOLIN**  
Rural Electric Cooperative  
A Touchstone Energy Cooperative



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# Rounding Up for a Good Cause

## ***Nolin RECC's Operation Round-Up allows members to give back to community***

How many times have you wanted to support a worthy community project or organization and not been able to afford the extra expense? Nolin RECC members can avoid having to spend large amounts of money on community projects by rounding up a little extra change each month when they pay their electric bill.

## ***It's called Operation Round-Up (ORU) and the concept behind the program is simple.***

ORU allows co-op members to voluntarily contribute quarters, dimes, nickels, and even pennies into a special account after they agree to have their electric bills rounded up to the next dollar. All of the funds collected from ORU are dedicated to charitable causes and community projects.

Since implementing Nolin RECC's

ORU in June 2006, nearly \$100,000 has been donated to projects/agencies in our communities. More than 5,100 Nolin RECC members are enrolled in ORU, each contributing around \$6 a year in change. "I don't mind giving a little change each month in order to make a big change in my community," says Nolin RECC Operation Round-Up member Tere Moore.

During last year's annual meeting at John Hardin High School, more than \$21,000 was presented to Feeding America-Kentucky's Heartland, LaRue County Youth Football, Radcliff Forestry and Conservation board, Hardin County Special Olympics, and Hardin County History Museum.

This past December, \$10,000 was presented to the Hardin County Veterans Tribute Foundation. The money will be used to finish expenses on construction and design of the Tribute.

Local citizens make up a nonprofit board of directors that governs ORU.

The board reviews applications for community projects and makes decisions on when, where, and how to utilize funds.

## ***Apply for ORU funds***

Are you involved with a charitable organization or a nonprofit group in need of materials or equipment? If so, Nolin's ORU may be able to help. Applications for grants will be accepted until 5 p.m., April 15, 2013.

Visit the Nolin RECC Web site at [www.nolinrecc.com](http://www.nolinrecc.com) to apply for a grant or call the office at (270) 765-6153 for an application.

## ***Ready to enroll in ORU?***

Operation Round-Up is an exclusive program to Nolin RECC and its members; however, participants do not have to be a member of the cooperative to donate funds. Individuals interested in receiving more information about ORU are urged to call Cheryl Thomas at Nolin RECC.

Accepting the Operation Round-Up contribution of \$10,000 to the Hardin County Veterans Tribute are Foundation members (front, left to right) Rik Hawkins, Mary Smith, and Gary Broadway. Operation Round-Up (ORU) board members (rear, left to right) Marion Henderson, Curtis Willoughby, Mike Eades, Cheryl Thomas, and Mark Rock (chair) presented the contribution on behalf of the Nolin RECC ORU members.



# Operation Round-Up Gives Back to Community and Members

## *Three Nolin RECC members rewarded for giving back to community*

Three co-op members recently learned they were each receiving a cash prize because of their voluntary participation in Operation Round-Up (ORU).

A membership drive concluded in December, which placed new enrollees as well as current participants of the program in line to win \$25, \$50, or \$100.

Jamie Burton was the \$100 winner, Amy Ambs won \$50, and Sarah Reynolds won \$25. The winning members' names were selected randomly from all ORU participants.

Thanks to our generous Nolin members who voluntarily contribute to ORU.

**Members may enroll in ORU any time throughout the year.**



Nolin RECC cashier manager Kathy Williamson (left) presents co-op member Jamie Burton (and her son) with \$100 after her name was randomly selected in the ORU giveaway.



## Ron Miller Retires



Ron Miller had already worked at a factory, grocery, car dealership, and as a carpenter prior to joining Nolin RECC in 1992 as warehouseman. "It took me a while to get on at Nolin, but when I did, I considered myself very fortunate," says Ron. "Working at the co-op was an honor and I really enjoyed the past 21 years at Nolin."

Ron retired January 31 as work order specialist. He plans to enjoy his days ahead by taking his two grandsons fishing as often as possible. He and his wife, Ilene, own a camper and they plan to put it to good use at some of their favorite state parks. The Millers have one son, two daughters, five grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter. "The camper may get a little crowded from time to time," says Ron. "Some of the grandchildren may have to take turns on the camping trips."

Ron has developed a deep appreciation for working at a cooperative like Nolin RECC and says what he will miss most is the family atmosphere he and his co-workers have developed. "Everyone I worked with treated me as family," says Ron. "I was on medical leave during the 2009 ice storm and still feel bad because I was not at work helping in any way I could to bring the lights back on for the Nolin members."

Best wishes on your retirement Ron!

# Know How to Stay Safe After Storms

Severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, and flooding can leave more than damage in their wake—they can leave hidden dangers as well. In some cases, more lives are lost after the storm than from the storm itself.

When you're dealing with storm cleanup or flood-damaged property, the prospect of an electrical accident is probably not on your mind. But it's the first thing you should think of before you go outside, step foot into a flooded area, or enter a storm-damaged building.

When outside, stay away from downed power lines and be alert to the possibility that tree limbs or debris may hide an electrical hazard. Treat all downed or hanging power lines as if they are energized. Lines do not have to be arcing or sparking to be live. Warn others to stay away, and contact Nolin RECC immediately.

Do not touch downed power lines, and do not touch objects or puddles of water in contact with those lines. There is no way to know if they are energized. Encountering these objects can be as hazardous as coming into contact with a downed power line itself.

## Safe Electricity offers other precautions following storms:

- If you are driving and come upon a downed power line, stay in your vehicle, warn others to stay away, and contact emergency personnel or Nolin. Never drive over a downed line, as it could pull down poles and other items along its path.
- Be alert at intersections where traffic lights may be out. Stop at all railroad crossings, and treat road intersections with traffic signals as four-way stops before proceeding with caution.

- Before re-entering storm-damaged buildings or rooms, be sure all electric and gas services are turned off. Never attempt to turn off power at the breaker box if you must stand in water to do so. If you cannot reach your breaker box safely, call Nolin to shut off power at the meter.

- Never step into a flooded basement or other area if water is covering electrical outlets, appliances, or cords.

- Electric motors in appliances that have been drenched or submerged should be thoroughly cleaned and reconditioned before they are put back into service. It may be necessary to replace them. Do not use any water-damaged appliance until a

professional has checked it out.

- If you use a portable generator, be sure a transfer safety switch has been installed, or connect appliances directly to the generator. This prevents electricity from traveling back through the home to power lines—what is known as “back-feed.” Backfeed creates danger for anyone near lines, particularly crews working to restore power.

*For additional information, tips and safety videos, visit [SafeElectricity.org](http://SafeElectricity.org).*

**Safe  
Electricity.org**<sup>®</sup>



**We've Got Your  
\$75 Number! \$75**  
**WIN \$75 Worth of FREE Electricity**

Nolin News features a contest called "We've Got Your Number." Hidden inside this issue are two randomly selected member account numbers. If you spot your account number, contact the Member Services Department at 765-6153, and **win a \$75 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, **Anna M. Ard**, of **Elizabethtown.**

**Online payments**

Access your Nolin RECC account through our Web site at **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."

# Another great scholarship opportunity

**T**he Kentucky Women in Rural Electrification (W.I.R.E.) will award up to three scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each to Kentucky college students.

The Kentucky W.I.R.E. is an organization of wives of rural electric cooperative directors, managers, and other key employees. Its goal is to further the public's understanding and appreciation of the rural electric program.

The scholarship is open to any eligible student whose immediate family is served by a Kentucky rural electric cooperative. To qualify, applicants must be a junior or senior with at least 60 hours of credits at a Kentucky college or university by the start of the fall term.

To apply, call the Nolin office at (270) 765-6153 and ask for Patsy Whitehead. Deadline for applications is June 16.



Electric cooperative employees, directors, managers, and their relatives, and those of Big Rivers Electric Corporation, East Kentucky Power Cooperative, and the Kentucky Association of Electric Cooperatives, are not eligible for the W.I.R.E. scholarship.

**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

**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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