

# Energy Partners

A monthly look at the happenings of and related to:



New-Mac Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner The power of human connections

## Co-op outlines aggressive energy efficiency programs to help members

### New-Mac Electric urges members to 'Take Control' of rising energy costs

New-Mac Electric Cooperative outlined a plan to help members fight back against rising energy costs at its 2008 Annual Meeting, held Oct. 25 at Crowder College.

Mitch McCumber, New-Mac chief executive officer, urged members at the meeting to "Take Control and Save," a program that includes a series of measures to help consumers make their homes and businesses more energy efficient and save on utility bills.

"New-Mac has been hit with wholesale rate increases for three straight years now. And they're continuing," said McCumber. "We just don't have any choice. Primarily, because our wholesale rates just keep going up, as we've said before, New-Mac will again have to raise rates in early 2009, and very likely again in the years after that."

McCumber said the co-op won't know the amount of the 2009 rate increase until the end of the year, and will inform members early next year. He said electric companies all over the country are having to raise rates due to rising costs of building power plants,



***"We can make good choices and we can take control,"***

***said New-Mac CEO/General Manager Mitch McCumber, as he addressed the attendees of the 2008 Annual Meeting.***



**New-Mac CEO/General Manager Mitch McCumber delivers his address to the membership at the co-op's 2008 annual meeting.**

meeting environmental standards, and buying coal and natural gas to generate electricity.

New-Mac's wholesale power suppliers, Associated Electric Cooperative in Springfield and KAMO Power in Vinita, Oklahoma, have to spend nearly \$2 billion to pay for environmental and fuel costs, and to build a new power plant near Chouteau, Oklahoma. Both Associated and KAMO raised their rates to New-Mac in 2006, 2007 and in 2008. Responding to those, New-Mac implemented a general rate increase earlier in 2008, the first such increase in 17 years.

"But we are not helpless. We can and

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New-Mac Electric Cooperative

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Energy Partners is a monthly publication of New-Mac Electric for the purpose of informing members of the programs, services and happenings of, and related to, the cooperative.

*Unclaimed capital credits list*

Next month, New-Mac will publish a list of unclaimed capital-credit checks. If you know any of these former members, please notify them so they can claim their check.

*Offices closed holidays in November*

New-Mac's offices will be closed Nov. 11 in observance of Veterans' Day and Nov. 27-29 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

*Assistance is available*

If you are having a problem paying your New-Mac account, please call us to make arrangements. Please don't disregard paying your bill. There are programs and options (such as budget billing) designed to assist you. So, please give us a call at 451-1515 or (800) 322-3849.

**LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM & EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE**  
Jasper County .....417/781-0352  
McDonald County ..417/845-6011  
Newton County.....417/451-2206

*Help yourself to 'Rural Missouri'*

Copies of the latest Rural Missouri magazine are always available, free of charge, at either New-Mac office.

*Outage reporting*

To report an outage, have your location number (found at the top of your bill) ready and call 451-1515 or (800) 322-3849.

Another  on the lines 

# 3,500 and counting!

## World's largest small appliance museum resides in New-Mac territory

What started as a hobby more than two decades ago for Richard Larrison has turned into the world's largest showcase of small electrical appliances, and it's on display for all to behold just north of Diamond on 59 Highway.

Richard, or J.R. as he's known by patrons of his Western Store, opened his museum over the



**J.R.'s World's Large Small Appliance Museum, which shares its location with J.R.'s Western Store, offers quite a history on the development of appliances over the last 100 years.**

weekend of Oct. 9-12 by hosting the World's Largest Gathering of Small Electrical Appliances.

The museum, housed in an addition to the Western Store, welcomed collectors from all across the country for the event. While that gathering brought many intriguing pieces, now that the dust has settled there's still much to see.

Richard's collection includes

toasters, coffee pots, blenders, waffle irons, fans, electric shavers, vacuums and much more – with many pieces dating back to the early 1900s. Indeed, many rare collectibles can be seen, including several that can be verified as one of a kind.

Admission to the museum is free. For more information, contact Richard at 417-476-0707.

**Pictured below, are exhibitors' booths from the museum's opening weekend, as well as examples of the many showcases' worth of appliances.**



# New-Mac recognized as a leader in energy efficiency

New-Mac Electric's ongoing efforts to promote energy efficiency were recently recognized, as the cooperative was named the 2008 recipient of Crowder College's MARET Program Energy Excellence Award at the 3rd Annual E-Conference, held Sept. 26-27 at the school.

Each year, the Energy Excellence Award goes to a Neosho (Mo.) area business that demonstrates outstanding effort in instituting, utilizing or providing energy efficiency or energy efficient products or services.

"The Neosho Area Chamber of Commerce congratulates New-Mac Electric for receiving the Energy Excellence Award," said Shana Griffin, Executive Director of the Neosho Area Chamber of Commerce. "New-Mac Electric demonstrates outstanding effort by providing energy efficient products and services."

New-Mac's Manager of Marketing & Consumer Services Mark Rakes expressed that it was great to be recognized for simply doing what the cooperative strives to do everyday.

"We are very pleased to win this award, mainly because we won this by working for our customers," said Rakes. "Energy efficiency has always been important to us, because we care about our customers, and we don't want to see them using or paying for more power than what they really need."

New-Mac Electric's numerous means of energy efficiency promotion include: offering rebates to customers for upgrading appliances and heating/cooling units with more efficient models; the distribution of thousands of compact fluorescent light bulbs to customers; the sponsorship of



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energy-efficiency-expert Doug Rye's radio program on multiple radio stations; making available educational resources on energy efficiency on its website; and the continual promotion of energy efficiency through literature and appearances at civic events and schools.

## Rebates still available through end of year

Don't forget New-Mac Electric's rebate campaign will run through the end of this year. If you're looking to improve the efficiency of various appliances in your house, remember *Energy Star* and take advantage of these incentives from New-Mac.

**CLOTHES WASHERS – \$100** – This rebate is for homes with electric water heating only. The new clothes washer must be *Energy Star* rated.

**DISHWASHERS – \$50** – This rebate is also for homes with electric water heating only. The new dishwasher must be *Energy Star* rated.

**WINDOW AIR-CONDITIONING UNITS – \$50** – Any *Energy Star* rated window air-conditioning unit is eligible for this rebate.

**WATER HEATERS – \$50** – This rebate is only for homes that currently feature electric water heating. In order to qualify for this rebate, the new unit must have an energy rating of .9 or better.

**AIR-SOURCE HEAT PUMP – \$150 PER TON** – Qualifying air-source heat pumps must carry the *Energy Star* label and feature natural gas or propane for its supplemental heat. This rebate applies toward the

replacement of electric resistance heat, new construction, retrofit of an existing propane or natural gas heating system, or replacement of an existing air source heat pump.

**GROUND-SOURCE HEAT PUMP – \$300 PER TON** – Qualifying applications

include the replacement of electric resistance heat, new construction, retrofit of an existing propane or natural gas heating system, or replacement of an existing ground source or air source heat pump.

### Energy Partners' Recipe of the Month:

#### NO BAKE PEANUT BUTTER GOODIES

Submitted by New-Mac member: **Lindell Hughes**

1 cup margarine or butter  
1 cup peanut butter  
4 cups sugar  
1 tsp. vanilla

1 cup milk  
5 cups rolled oats  
1 tsp. salt

Mix margarine, sugar, milk and salt in pan. Bring to boil, and boil for 10 minutes. Remove from heat, add peanut butter, vanilla, and oats. Mix well. Pour on cookie sheet or drop by teaspoon on waxed paper. Let set until firm.

Send your recipe, along with your name and customer number, to: Recipes, c/o New-Mac Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 310, Neosho, MO 64850; or [recipes@new-mac.com](mailto:recipes@new-mac.com). If your recipe is selected, New-Mac will apply a \$15 credit to your bill.

# ○ Annual meeting

Continued from page 1

will fight back. We can take control of how efficiently we use electricity, and we can save money," said McCumber.

At the meeting, New-Mac distributed energy efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs to attendees – six per member – at no cost. Over their lifetime, studies show replacing six incandescent bulbs with CFL's can save a total of \$239 per household.

Emphasizing "we're looking out for you," McCumber also outlined various other efficiency programs designed to help reduce electric usage, including online energy audits and home efficiency recommendations, available through the co-op's website – [www.newmac.com](http://www.newmac.com). In addition, through the end of the year, New-Mac is also paying rebates to members who install high efficiency washing machines, dishwashers, room air conditioners, water heaters and heat pumps.

McCumber also urged members to join in a nationwide co-op campaign called "Our Energy, Our Future," to send messages calling on members of Congress to act immediately to take control of rising energy costs and find long-term energy solutions for the country. The campaign has already generated nearly 7,000 letters and messages through New-Mac alone.



Among the several bike winners at New-Mac's annual meeting were Jonathan Keith and Elisabeth Huffman, pictured above with Buddy Bear. Below, as co-op members enjoyed their barbecue from Family Market, they listened to the bluegrass sounds of *The Martins*, an award-winning family band.



## 2008 Annual Meeting at a glance

Thanks again to everyone who participated in the 2008 Annual Meeting and made it a success!

**Attendance:** approximately 1,200 New-Mac members and family.

### Board Member Election Results:

District 1 .....Martin Youngblood  
District 3 .....Bobby Fields  
District 6 .....Paul Sprengle

### Newly Chosen

#### 2009 Nominating Committee:

District 4 .....Frank Copeland  
Alternate .....Lawrence Coiner  
District 5 .....George Kirk  
Alternate .....Clovis Dean Gentry  
District 9 .....Jamey Cope  
Alternate .....Paul Bequette  
Newton Co. at large .....Estell Clymer  
Alternate .....Robert Banks  
McDonald Co. at large .....Lance Meador  
Alternate .....Raymond E. Gardner

McCumber reported that the past two years of ice storms and tornadoes have also been a significant challenge. "We deal with damage and repairs every day, but when you see your friends and neighbors lose everything – and yes, sadly sometimes even their lives – it's just never the same again," McCumber said.

McCumber told members that the continuing growth in the area resulted in a solid financial year for 2007. According to its annual report, New-Mac Electric revenues grew to over \$26 million in 2007, and the co-op now has over \$80 million in total assets.

McCumber also announced that approximately \$607,000 in capital credit refund checks would be distributed to member-customers. The capital credit refunds go to people who were New-Mac member-customers during portions of 1992 and 1993, based on their electric usage. Members who didn't attend the meeting will receive their checks in the mail.

This marks eleven consecutive years that New-Mac has paid back capital credits to members. During that time, New-Mac has refunded capital credits and rate adjustments to members totaling nearly \$14,000,000. As a customer-owned, not-for-profit company, New-Mac is able to refund excess operating margins to customers from prior years.

However, McCumber said the co-op has already been forced to reduce capital credit



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Anderson — 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Or visit us on the Web at  
[www.newmac.com](http://www.newmac.com).

### Management

CEO/General Manager .....Mitch McCumber  
Controller .....David Childers  
Manager of Administration .....Mary Hatfield  
System Engineer .....Stan Irsik  
Manager of Operations .....Alan Loehr  
Manager of Marketing .....Mark K. Rakes  
Billing Supervisor .....Vickie Stuart

### Board of Directors

District 1 .....Martin Youngblood  
District 2 .....Kenneth Daniels  
District 3 .....Bobby Fields  
District 4 .....Beryl Kennedy  
District 5 .....Billy P. White  
District 6 .....Paul Sprengle  
District 7 .....Maurice Mailes  
District 8 .....Virgil Winchester  
District 9 .....Dewey Allgood

### Services Provided to Members

Call our consumer services department for information on the following services:

**Autowithdrawal Payment**  
**Levelized Billing**  
**Rental Light**  
**Meeting rooms available at both locations**  
**Credit Card Acceptance**  
**Safety Programs (upon request)**  
**Trade-A-Tree Program**  
**Surge Protection**  
**Green Power**

### Questions? Comments?

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refunds, and that trend will likely continue as wholesale power costs continue to increase.

"I think our members are a pretty tough bunch. We don't run and hide. We push ahead and deal with challenges head-on," McCumber told the meeting. "We can make good choices and we can take control."

McCumber also reported that the co-op continued making progress over the past year with construction projects, including substation upgrades, pole change-outs, and line relocation. In addition, New-Mac will spend \$1.6 million this year on right-of-way brush clearing in order to improve electric reliability.

New-Mac Electric, headquartered in Neosho, serves some 17,000 member accounts primarily in Newton, McDonald and Jasper Counties.