



**2** Notes From the Chair



**3** 2022 Youth Programs



**4** Backwoods Chili Pie

# country living

FOR MEMBERS OF EAST CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE



## FREE ecoLINK App a Big Plus

ecoLINK+ provides ultimate wi-fi experience

The free ecoLINK+ app gives you easy access to a snapshot view of your home or small business network. Through the app you can view all the connected devices on your network, set up parental controls or a guest network, change your SSID and password, and more. ecoLINK+ puts you in charge!

### Key Features

#### PEOPLE

Connect your Things (devices) with people in your home network. This allows you to set parental controls, content filters, time limits and so much more.

#### PLACES

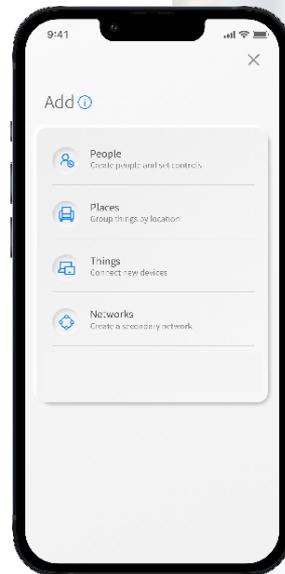
Places are a great way to tailor your Wi-Fi to devices connecting to a specific area in your home like an office, media room, patio or game room. This allows you to optimize your Wi-Fi performance by being able to pause internet access to devices in locations that don't need to be on.

#### THINGS

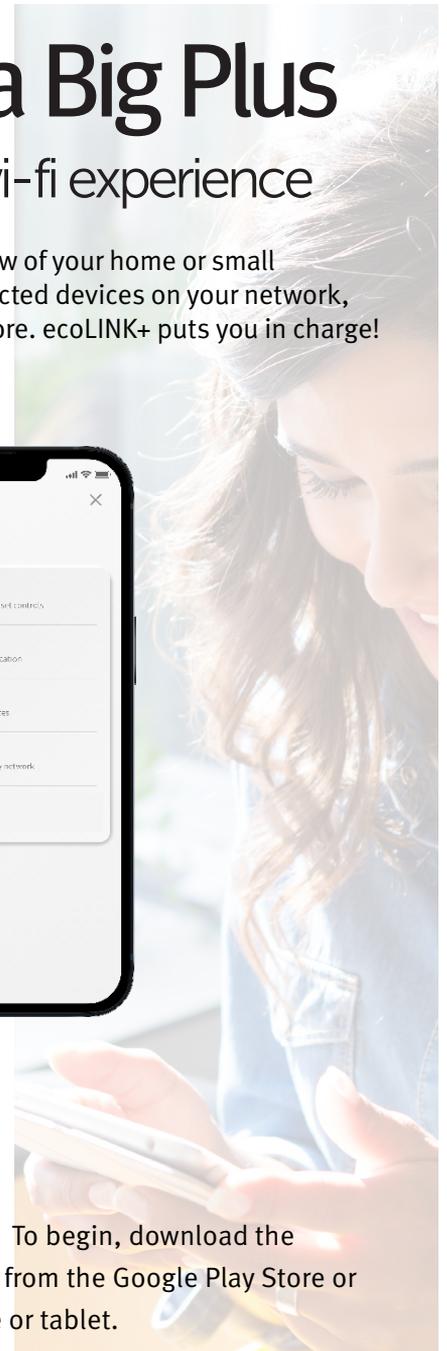
You can easily find your network details here to connect a new device to your Wi-Fi.

#### NETWORK

Add a guest network at anytime and keep your main Wi-Fi network and data safe while you have guests over. You can set a duration and even text the Wi-Fi network name and password to your visitors.



A world of customization is available to you. To begin, download the ecoLINK+ App from the QR Code provided or from the Google Play Store or Apple App Store and install onto your phone or tablet.



To learn more about your elected trustees, or to view a district map, please visit [ecoec.com](http://ecoec.com). To contact your trustee, please call 918-756-0833.

## notes from the chair



by Lowell Hobbs, President, East Central Electric Cooperative Board of Trustees

# It's Time to Get Your House in Order

I was saddened to tears when I learned my good and faithful friend, Bob Hopkins, had died. Bob and Wanda had spent several days in Texas to perform the wedding of one of their granddaughters. When they returned home sick, they went to the doctor and learned they both had COVID. Bob and Wanda had quarantined and eventually were doing much better—then Wanda called one morning and reported that Bob got up, shaved, put on his britches and fell dead. What a loss for all that knew him. I do rejoice in the fact that I got to share some time with him. He was an inspiration to all that he touched.

Then our Co-op family was saddened to hear that Former State Representative Jerry Shoemake had died. Jerry served in the Oklahoma House of Representatives from the 16th district from 2004 to 2016. Jerry's brother Max currently serves on East Central Electric Board of Directors and represents ECE on Western Farmers Board of Directors. Max and Jerry's Dad, Luther, served on ECE Board for many years.

This brings to mind my belief that it's time to get your house in order. We don't know the hour or day we will leave, but now is the time for you to pay homage to those you love. Don't delay. Today is the best day to trust God and make your reservation in heaven. Do it now--I believe Hell is real.

No one filed to compete with Dwight Luther or Mike Vernnon, incumbent Board members, so there will be no competitive elections at this year's annual meeting.

Our fiber to the home is still progressing and looks as though we will be complete well ahead of schedule. I tell you again, regardless of where you are located, if you want the ecolink call 918-756-0833 and tell of your interest. We have no salesperson calling on you, so your call is our alert that you want it--even if you have already done so, do it again.

At last notice we have completed almost 900 days without a lost time

reportable accident.

A few years ago as I walked into the cafe for lunch, my friend Delbert with his full head of hair, and his crew were already eating. As I took a seat at another table he yelled across the room to me--"Lowell, put your hat on. The sun is reflecting off your balding head and bothering my sight." I replied, "Delbert, God only gave us so many male hormones. If you want to use yours growing hair, that's OK with me!"

*Lowell Hobbs represents ECE District 2. To reach him, please call his cellphone at 918-695-5289.*

**"We don't know the hour or day we will leave, but now is the time for you to pay homage to those you love."**

- LOWELL HOBBS



Please join us in extending gratitude to the following businesses whose donations made our 2022 Annual Meeting such a success.



905 W. Main St.  
Stigler, OK 74462  
Office: 918.967.8037  
Fax: 918.967.2188



MDR CONSTRUCTION  
1056 Prosperous Ridge RD.  
Columbia MS. 39429  
601-731-2716



701 NE 7th Anadarko,  
OK 73005  
405-247-3351



500 South KAMO Drive,  
Vinita, Oklahoma 74301  
918-256-5551



OKLAHOMA'S ELECTRIC  
COOPERATIVES



Electric Cooperatives  
of Arkansas



# Empowering Today's Youth to be Tomorrow's Leaders

At East Central Electric Cooperative, we believe in people power.

Resilient people came together and created the co-op over 80 years ago. Dedicated people keep the power on today. And after spending a few weeks with the next generation, we know some conscientious young people who have what it takes to lead.

This year, East Central Electric sponsored six students to attend Youth Tour in Washington D.C. and six to attend Energy Camp in Hinton, Oklahoma.

We could tell you all about their experiences, but we're going to let them:

## Youth Tour

"Thank you for picking me, out of all the other applicants that applied.

I'm extremely grateful that I had the opportunity to represent Oklahoma. I hope to go back to my school and spread the word about this amazing experience." - JaiCee Lester

"Dear East Central Electric, I wanted to thank you for believing in me and sponsoring me! This trip has been so amazing and I have learned so much. Thank you for this opportunity!" - Haley Dennis

"Thank you for such a life changing opportunity. There were so many memories made and I will be forever grateful. It was such an honor!" - Cassidy Fisher

## Energy Camp

"Energy Camp is awesome because you can meet so many new and cool people. This week has been

amazing and I'll make sure to sign up for Youth Tour. Thanks again so much for this, I would recommend it to everyone." - Blaine Crowe

"Thank you so much for letting me attend Energy Camp. I had so much fun and hope other kids will learn about this so they can experience this too. When I first came to Energy Camp I had no idea what a co-op was really. Now I know so much about them and that's all because of you! I appreciate it and will remember it all my life." - Rachel Hembree

"This week has been fun, especially coming into this camp not knowing anyone and not knowing what to do. Energy Camp is awesome because of all the friends I made and just how friendly people are. Thank y'all for the opportunities to come here and just learn about energy and electric. Again thank you so much." - Landon Helt





Operation Roundup funds support local charitable organizations, civic groups, youth programs, community services, and needy families. For more information on this voluntary bill roundup program, please visit us online at [www.ecoec.com](http://www.ecoec.com).

**TOTAL GRANTED**  
**\$2,132,661.57**

APPLICATIONS REVIEWED  
**1,268**

APPLICATIONS GRANTED  
**882**

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED  
**\$284,500**

AVERAGE MEMBER CONTRIBUTION  
**48¢**



## Backwoods Chili Pie

### INGREDIENTS

- |                         |                  |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| 2 cans favorite chili,  | 1/2 C. Crisco    |
| or 4 C. homemade        | 1/2 C. corn meal |
| 2 C. cooked pinto beans | 4 tsp. water     |
| 1 C. flour              | 3/4 tsp. salt    |

### DIRECTIONS

Mix dry ingredients, cut in shortening. Add water to form a soft dough that can be rolled out on a floured surface. Line casserole dish with half the dough. Spoon in chili, cover with rest of dough. Bake at 425 degrees for 20-25 minutes until crust is brown.

SOURCE: SAFE ELECTRICITY

SOURCE: ECE 80TH ANNIVERSARY COOKBOOK



## ELECTRICAL SAFETY TIP OF THE MONTH

Are you sending someone off to college? Remind your student to watch out for overheated outlets. If an outlet becomes so hot you cannot leave your hand on it, there is potential for a fire. Unplug everything and notify the landlord or dorm officials immediately.



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Office hours:  
Monday-Friday, 8 am - 4:30 pm.

Power Outage Hot line  
(918) 756-0833

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### PAYMENT OPTIONS

Pay online using SmartHub.

Pay by phone using VISA, Mastercard or Discover at 866-999-4584. Available 24/7. Convenience fee associated with payments.

Pay with cash or credit/debit card at participating Moneygram or Pay Site locations. Convenience fee associated with payments.

Pay using our drive-thru window Monday - Friday from 8 am to 4:45 pm.

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