SEPTEMBER 2022



Serving our members and communities is a mission we take seriously at East Central Electric Cooperative.

With the school year back in swing, one of the ways we live up to our mission is through our Youth Power programming.

In the classroom, we can help educators teach electrical safety using our tabletop safety demo and by sharing pre-made activity sheets and curriculum.

Outside the classroom, our linemen join us to perform a live line safety demonstration with our mobile trailer.

At the middle school level we introduce students to the cooperative business model and the seven principles that guide all kinds of cooperative businesses.

At the high school level we instill students with leadership skills and career readiness.

Our service territory overlaps with 44 Oklahoma public school districts, where students don't need to be co-op members to receive the free education and resources we offer. We offer our youth services at no charge to private schools and home school groups as well.

Each year we also open up applications to our members for our most recognizable youth programs: Youth Tour, Energy Camp, and our Operation Roundup Scholarship. Youth Tour is an all-expense-paid leadership training trip to Washington D.C. for high school juniors.

Energy Camp is a one-week summer camp for 8th graders packed with educational, leadership building activities.

And our Operation Roundup Scholarship offers \$1,000 to one high school senior from each school in our service territory.

To learn more about any of our youth programs, please visit www. ecoec.com. To schedule a visit at your school or after-school program, please call 918-756-0833 and ask about Youth Programs.

Make the most of your new network with the ecoLINK+ App

ecoLINK+ gives you an instant snapshot 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, run speed tests, change your SSID and password, and more. ecoLINK+ puts you in charge!



Download from the app store Soogle play





To learn more about your elected trustees, or to view a district map, please visit ecoec. com. To contact your trustee, please call 918-756-0833.



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

Words of Encouragement

Upon connecting the ten thousandth ecoLINK subscriber, we celebrated by letting all employees off Friday after a good steak lunch. We continue to install approximately 25 more each day, so completion is getting closer. I continue to hear many compliments about the ecoLINK system from those members who are using it.

The annual meeting was a good success using a combination drivethru and an in-person agenda. We obtained a quorum, and I heard no

complaints about the procedure. One lady asked me if I was related to Martha Hobbs, and I revealed to her that she was my mother. The lady had been a student at Liberty School and was very complimentary of my mother.

Naturally my hat almost got too small for my head. I told the lady that my Mother and Dad had been just like parents to me. It is not unusual for someone to share with me their memories of my mother and dad when they had been their teachers. Which reminds me to encourage you to relate your fond memories and thoughts to your loved ones. Words of encouragement and praise is one of the finest gifts you can share. Tell your spouse, your kids, and your friends how much they mean to you.

My Dad, as vo-ag teacher knew a lot about caring for animals as well as people. He became the go-to guy when an animal was ailing. The nearest vet was 22 miles away. He never charged anyone for his help. He had an understanding with the druggist at Rexall Drug to supply the medicines on credit (at his direction) and the owner of the livestock would come in and pay for the medicine used. I most always was there too, and since I was a small kid I was popular for delivering pigs and sheep when birthing was a problem.

When I was in the 7th grade my Dad had a terrible car wreck. He survived but our Chevy car did not. The community came to our rescue and took

"Tell your spouse, your kids, and your friends how much they mean to you."

- LOWELL HOBBS

up a collection from the same people he had helped many times to help us buy a new Ford pickup. The people together donated \$720.00 toward the \$755.00 price of a new pickup.

When Donna came into my life,

she brought 2 more boys with her to add to the three I already had. We lost Steve in 2018 from complications of diabetes, MS, and cigarettes. I was honored to be his Dad for 40 years. Steve was a good young man. He was elected to serve as Mayor of Haskell and took up my Dad's efforts to clean up the Haskell Lake area which belonged to the City of Haskell. My Dad had helped build the lake with teams of horses in WPA days (1930's).

More sad news for my family as my son Craig has been diagnosed with bladder cancer, the aggressive kind. He has taken one chemo treatment before leaving for his ministry trip to Africa. He is committed to preaching God's word to people in a far land who have limited exposure to God's word. Then my son Monty has been struggling for a few months and has been told almost assuredly that he has Parkinson's disease.

You cannot imagine the impact all of this is having on our life. Many changes are surely on the horizon, but we know and accept that God is in charge and we will be OK.

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



10,000 Installations

Christi Stuart of Beggs was the ten-thousandth installation for ecoLINK. Before ecoLINK, Stuart and family had to rely on hotspots. Congratulations Christi! We know you are going to love it!



2022 Annual Meeting Prize Winners

Grand Prize Winner

Larry McClure, Bristow

\$500 Winners

Barbara Pannell, Henryetta R L Wilbourn Jr., Henryetta

\$100 Winners

Tommy Allen, Wainwright Linda Anderson, Morris Judith Bankston, Beggs Geana Bogle, Castle Angela Branson, Henryetta Danny Brinsfield, Checotah Jamie Brooks, Checotah Chris Buell, Henryetta Laurie Chaffin, Muskogee Harold Collins, Checotah Kathy Crane, Mounds Jason Crull, Muskogee Davis and Davis Oil Properties Inc., Morris Tom Delorbe, Bixby James Dixon, Morris Susan Doty, Okemah Mike Drain, Haskell Roger Findahl, Bristow Clayton Frair, Weleetka Brvan Green, Porum Jim Hill, Council Hill Bridgette Holland, Weleetka David Holt, Okmulgee Dean Horton, Depew Jim Hurt, Henryetta Donald Jenkins, Warner Christopher Johnson, Mounds Kenneth Johnson, Kellyville Darla Jones, Beggs Dean Jones, Drumright Jim Lucas, Okemah Rosie Main, Haskell George Marshall, Warner Joann McCall, Twin Hills Maureen McCollum, Sapulpa Tyler McCormack, Okmulgee



East Central Electric Cooperative met quorum at the 2022 Annual Meeting with 1,632 members registered and several future members in attendance.

Lawrence McCullah, Preston Ona McNew, Bristow Thelma McQuain, Bristow Sean McSorley, Henryetta Jesse Mills, Beggs Tina Mitcham, Boynton Shirley Moshier, Morris Lisa Myers, Beggs Tena Page, Henryetta Gary Ponder, Kellyville Ron Rose, Okmulgee Susan Rouell, Muskogee Shelley Russo, Beggs Mary Seago, Mounds Leonard Simpson, Boynton Tommy Standifird, Muskogee Kendall Steele. Okemah Wayne Thomas, Boynton Cordi Tice, Bixby Ronald Tyler, Muskogee Glen Vanorsdol, Bristow Buddy Visser, Preston Rex Watson, Okmulgee Bob Winkle, Checotah

ecoLINK 1 Month Winners

Liberty Area Fire Protection Association, Mounds Richard Buck, Eufaula Janis Garland, Council Hill Mike Grace, Oktaha Donald Moore, Okemah Howard Ray, Beggs Floyd Robison, Morris Rodney Rose, Oktaha Tommy Tamplen, Schulter Edward Washington, Henryetta

ecoLINK 3 Month Winners

Rod Mathis, Muskogee Bobby Moody, Mounds John Phillips, Beggs Michael Wade, Beggs

ecoLINK 1 Year Winners

Michael Coulter, Eufaula Walter Freman, Okmulgee John Motes, Checotah

4 | country living



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.





September is National Preparedness Month. Don't let the next big storm catch you off guard. What is in your first aid/ emergency kit? If you're unsure about what you need, you can find a helpful checklist at ready.gov.



PO Box 1178 2001 S. Wood Drive Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447-1178 (918) 756-0833 www.ecoec.com



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

> Power Outage Hot-line (918) 756-0833

SOURCE: READY.GOV

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Lowell Hobbs, District 2 President

Larry Harvey, District 1 Vice President

Dwight Luther, District 7 Secretary / Treasurer

Jim Hall, District 6 Asst. Sec. / Treasurer

Max Shoemake, District 3

Michael Vernnon, District 4

Jay Emerson, District 5

Tim Smith General Manager



Peach Cobbler

INGREDIENTS

- 4 C. peaches
- 2 C. sugar
- 1/2 C. melted margarine
- 2 C. flour

DIRECTIONS

4 tsp. baking powder 1/2 tsp. salt 1 1/4 C. boiling water

Place fruit in a well-greased 9X13 dish. Mix 1 C. sugar, flour, baking powder, margarine, salt and milk. Spoon over fruit and spread. Sprinkle remaining 1 C. sugar over batter and pour boiling water on top. Bake 50-60 minutes at 350° or until slightly brown. May substitute any fruit.

SOURCE: ECE 80TH ANNIVERSARY COOKBOOK

 $Submit \ your \ recipes \ for \ the \ 85th \ anniversary \ cookbook \ to \ kharrison@ecoec.com.$

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.

Pay via automatic draft of your checking or savings account. Sign up online or download the ebill form at www.ecoec. com, or set up online payments through your bank. No convenience fee.

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