



country living

FOR MEMBERS OF EAST CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

 TOP STORY

Big Battery Will Help Co-ops Take Advantage of More Renewables

An Oklahoma generation and transmission cooperative is adding 500 megawatts of renewable capacity to its system, and it is backing up that power with a major investment in battery storage. Once operating, it will be the largest combined wind, solar and energy storage project in the nation.

“With the price of wind and solar energy lower than ever, we are now able to pair it with battery storage

to make more affordable, renewable energy available,” said Gary Roulet, CEO of Anadarko-based Western Farmers Electric Cooperative (WFEC).

The systems will be deployed across more than 30,000 acres located in three counties in north-central Oklahoma.

The three-phase project, once fully operational, will help WFEC achieve about 50 percent of its energy capacity with wind, solar and hydroelectric



The 123-megawatt Red Hills Wind Farm near Elk City, produces enough energy to power 40,000 homes. WFEC began purchasing its output in 2009.

power. Solar generation will account for 521 MW of supply, and wind generation will top 955 MW.

WFEC supplies power to 19 electric co-ops in Oklahoma, including East Central Electric Cooperative. 

Second graders from Twin Hills Elementary School toured ECE's Community Solar Project on Sept. 5. The students learned about solar energy and how it is generated. The students also toured co-op headquarters, where they learned about electrical safety.

PHOTO/ECE



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

**note from
the chair**



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

Meeting Prompts Member Questions

I've been granted the opportunity to write an article for the monthly newsletter. The title "Note from the Chair," will be just that—my views with just a touch of humor. There's so much to tell you about the exciting things going on at your co-op.

I'll try to cover one or two topics each month.

Our recent annual meeting revealed some things to the board that apparently were not clear to some of our members. It concerns the voting on bylaws and voting on directors.

If a bylaw revision is presented to members for a vote, that tells you the board approves the proposed change. We would only propose changes to the bylaws if they were of benefit to our members, and we would hope you would agree and support the change. If you did not approve, we expect you to vote your conscience.

Each household or place of business that receives electric service from East Central Electric Cooperative has a vote, and it is important that we hear from you, either before the meeting or by your vote at the meeting.

Your co-op service territory is divided into seven districts. Each district, on a rotational basis, nominates one or more directors by petition. Although directors are nominated by district, they are voted on and elected by the entire co-op membership.

We must have a quorum at the annual meeting for the vote to be official. Your co-op bylaws specify what happens if a quorum is lacking, but we try very hard to get a quorum at every meeting. If you have questions or need clarification on this, please contact the co-op at 918-756-0833.

My dad taught me early on that if you want to look good, surround yourself with good people. I feel I have done that with our co-op board and co-op family. My dad would be proud.

One time I was conversing with a waitress and I remarked "I'm a lot smarter than I look!" Her reply: "Isn't that wonderful." ☺

"Each household or place of business that receives electric service from East Central Electric Cooperative has a vote, and it is important that we hear from you..."

East Central Electric Cooperative Statement of Non-Discrimination

East Central Oklahoma Electric Cooperative, Inc. is the recipient of federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and is also subject to provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and the rules and regulations of the Department of Agriculture.

The person responsible for coordinating this organization's non-discriminating compliance efforts is Gary Creekmore, Director of Human Resources.

East Central Oklahoma Electric is an equal opportunity provider and employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, disability status, genetics, protected veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other characteristic protected by federal state or local laws.

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- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov

East Central Oklahoma Electric Cooperative, Inc. is an equal opportunity provider and employer/VET/DISABLED.

Stop Thirsty Vampires

They vant to drink your power



up to **5%** Energy lost to vampire electronics in U.S. homes.

The little vampires ringing your doorbell on Halloween aren't the only ones that deserve your attention. Electricity vampires are lurking in your house all year. These thirsty appliances and electronics suck power and add kilowatts to your bill, even when they're turned off.

According to the US Department of Energy, vampires account for up to 5 percent of the energy use in some homes.

Remember, if an electrical device has a continuous display, like a digital clock, if it charges batteries, like your mobile phone charger, or if it has a remote control, like your TV—it's a vampire.

Stop vampires by unplugging them when they're not in use, or purchase

power strips so you can pull just one plug and stop a group of electronics from "drinking" your power.

Check for these vampires in your house:

1. **Computers, modems, routers, printers and other related equipment.**
2. **Your flat-screen TV.** The larger it is, the more energy it uses, even if it's off.
3. **Home theater equipment,** including surround-sound devices.
4. **Your cable or satellite TV box.**
5. **Anything with a digital time display,** like your microwave oven or DVD player.



October is National Co-op Month.

Electric co-ops are proud to power more than 20 million American homes, businesses, farms, and schools in 48 states.

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operation round-up

MONTHLY UPDATE



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.

Applications reviewed.....	1091
Applications granted.....	725
Applications denied.....	327
Applications tabled.....	26
Scholarships awarded.....	\$245,000
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Total Disbursements.....	\$1,757,562.73
Average member contribution.....	48¢

RECIPES



Buffalo Spiced Chicken Dip

INGREDIENTS

3 cups diced cooked rotisserie chicken	½ cup blue cheese dressing
2 (8 oz) pkg cream cheese, softened	½ cup crumbled blue cheese
¾ cup hot pepper sauce	2 tablespoons shredded pepper Jack cheese
½ cup shredded pepper Jack cheese	1 pinch cayenne pepper
	½ teaspoon seafood seasoning
	1 pinch cayenne pepper to taste

DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 400° F. Combine chicken, cream cheese, hot pepper sauce, ½ cup pepper Jack cheese, blue cheese dressing, crumbled blue cheese, seafood seasoning, and cayenne pepper in a large bowl.

Transfer chicken mixture to a 9-inch round baking dish and sprinkle with 2 tablespoons pepper Jack cheese.

Bake until lightly browned, 15 to 20 minutes. Remove from oven and garnish with cayenne pepper.

Source: allrecipes.com



ELECTRICAL SAFETY TIP OF THE MONTH

Recurring tripped circuit breakers or blown fuses can signify a serious electrical problem. Contact a licensed electrician immediately.

SOURCE: ELECTRICAL SAFETY FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL



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