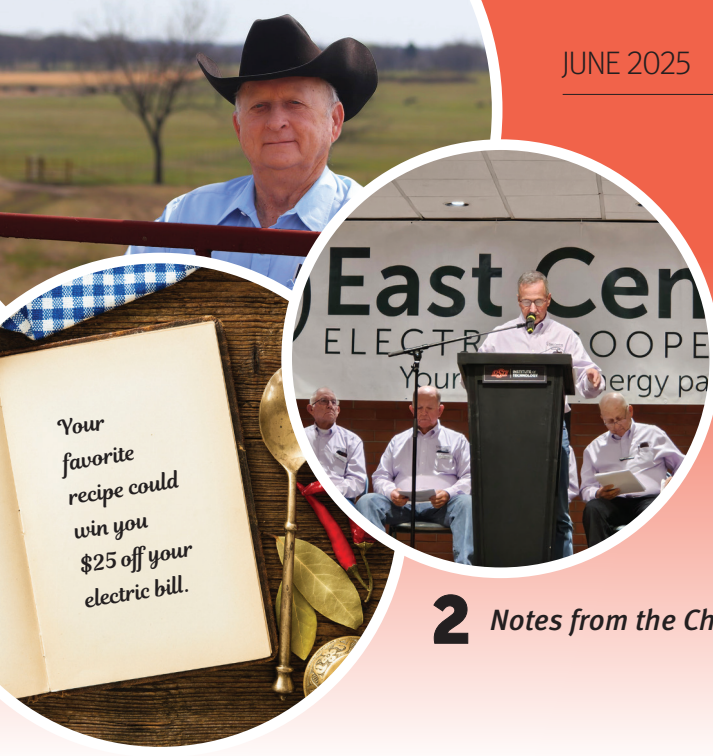


JUNE 2025

# country living

FOR MEMBERS OF EAST CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE



**2** *Notes from the Chair*   **3** *Co-op Districts & Leadership*   **4** *Recipe Contest*

## *Built by Hand, Backed by Heart*

District 4 & 7 Meetings June 19, Annual Meeting July 24

### **District 4 & 7 Meetings**

Thursday, June 19 - 6:30 p.m.

East Central Electric Cooperative  
Multipurpose Center  
2001 S. Wood Drive, Okmulgee

### **District Prizes:**

The first 50 members who register in person for each district will receive a \$10 bill credit. Every member in attendance will also be entered into a per-district drawing for:

- 1 - \$100 Bill Credit
- 1 - Three free months of 1GB ecoLINK service
- 2 - Gifts valued at \$50
- 3 - One free month of 1GB ecoLINK service

### **Official Notices:**

If you live in Districts 4 or 7, look for your Official Notice in the mail the week of June 2.

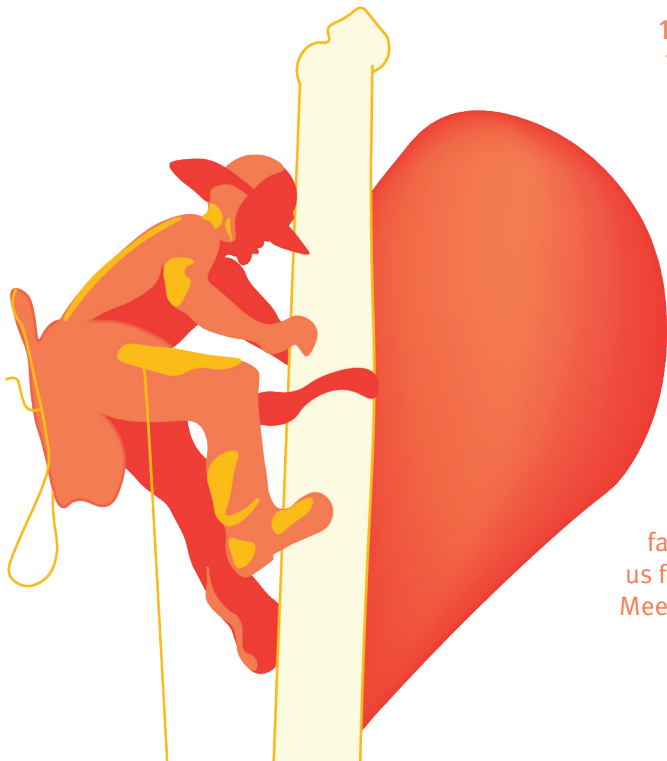
### **Save the Date:**

This all leads up to our favorite day of the year. Join us for our co-op wide Annual Meeting, Thursday July 24.

### **Purpose:**

Those words, “Built by Hand, Backed by Heart,” capture the essence of rural electric cooperatives’ storied history and promising future. East Central Electric Cooperative was born out of necessity and determination during a time when much of rural America was left in the dark. It was the rolled-up sleeves of farmers, ranchers, and lineworkers that brought electricity to areas overlooked by for-profit utilities. These individuals worked tirelessly, sometimes in harsh conditions, to string lines, build substations, and bring the promise of light and opportunity to their communities.

Today, from farm to factory, skilled hands continue to build our future. These seasoned workers ensure power keeps flowing, adapting to new challenges like renewable energy and modernized grids. The heart of rural electric cooperatives has always been the hard work, resilience, and dedication of the people, reminding us that progress is a team effort built by hardened hands and strong communities.





Lowell Hobbs, District 2  
President

Larry Harvey, District 1  
Vice President

Dwight Luther, District 7  
Secretary / Treasurer

Jim Hall, District 6  
Assistant Sec. / Treasurer

Max Shoemake, District 3

Michael Vernnon, District 4

Jay Emerson, District 5

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.

East Central Electric's trip to Oklahoma City to visit with or legislators was a success. Several of our employees and staff were able to attend and be in the photo receiving the Advocacy Award from OAEC. We were even introduced from the floor of the House of Representatives by Scott Fetgatter and Chris Banning. Most of the House of Representatives recognize and relate to East Central Electric Co-op. I hope our relationship stays healthy with our elected officials, and I'm sure it will.

ECE's districts 4 and 7 will host their district meetings on Thursday night June 19th at ECE's all purpose room. I invite those of you in Districts 4 and 7 to come and spend an hour or so with us, and then everyone should come to the Annual Meeting on Thursday, July 24, at OSUIT.

We will continue with the drive thru process so it doesn't take long. We will still gather inside for

those that are not in a hurry. Our Board of Directors are anxious to share with you our achievements for the past and our forecast for the future. I hope to see you there.

My family moved from town (Cleveland) to the country the summer before my 7th grade. I have always enjoyed playing basketball. Although I was not very big nor stout, I was a strong competitor.

I did not have an opportunity to try out for the high school team until my senior year. That is when I got my driver's license. Seven miles from town and all the chores I was responsible for interfered with my basketball time, but with my license I could stay after school for practice and still get home in time to do my chores.

I was a 5'7" scrapper 'wanna be' and Pete was a 6'1" junior 'gonna be.' During scrimmage I managed to tie the ball with him. Back then a tie resulted in a jump ball each time. Coach

was also our scrimmage referee and conducted the jump ball. I out jumped Pete (because he wasn't trying). Coach blew the whistle—jump again. Again I out jumped Pete. Another whistle, jump again. The third time Pete sorta jumped into me and barely out did me.

I didn't have any money but I would have paid them to let me play. I did make the 10 man traveling team but spent way too much time on the bench. One night some of my friends up in the stands started to chant: we want Lowell—we want Lowell. The coach looked down the bench and motioned me to him. I was so excited, I thought I was going to get to show my stuff!

Coach said, "Hobbs, some of the fans are calling for you. Go up there...see what they want."

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

## 5 WAYS to Reduce Use During Extreme Heat

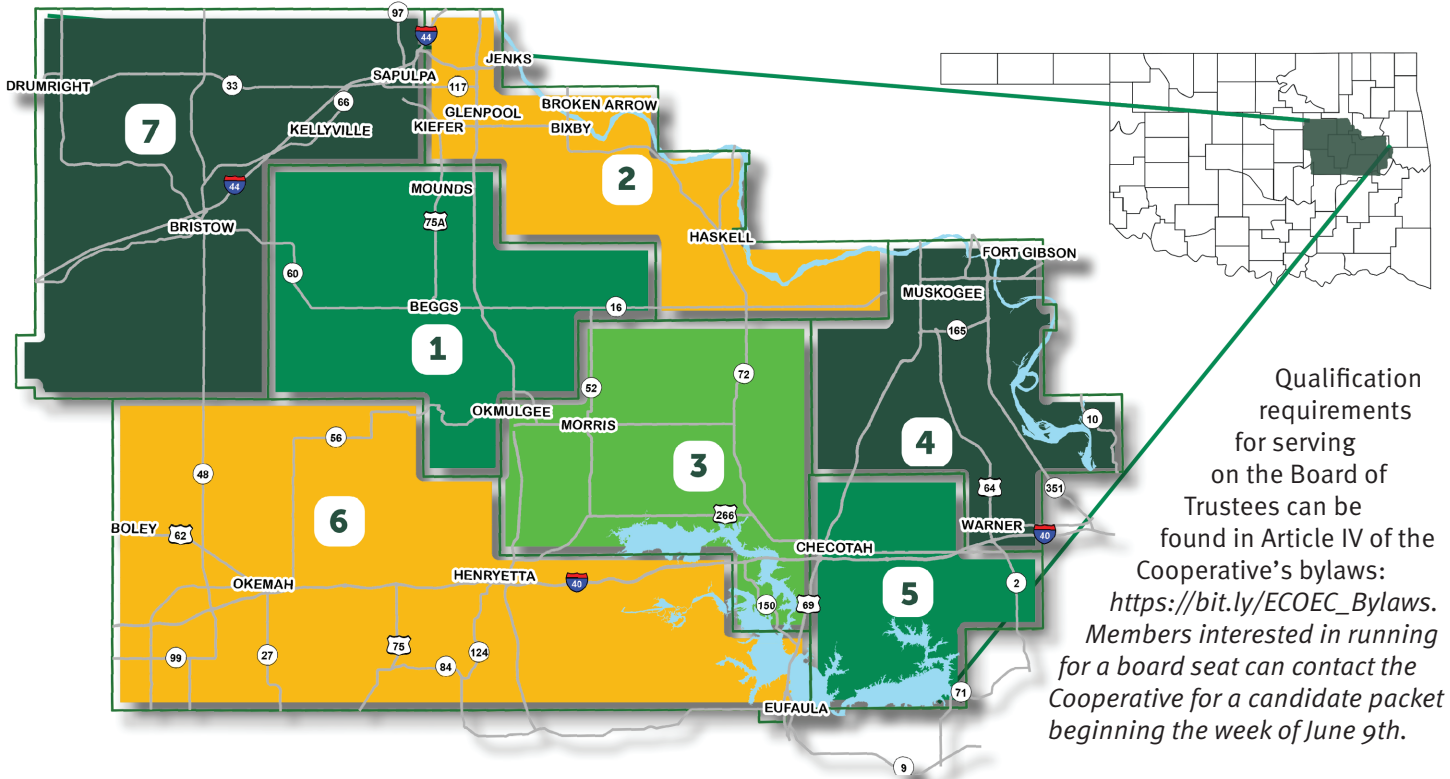


1. **Raise your thermostat setting a few degrees higher** than usual. Every degree can reduce cooling energy consumption.
2. **Cook with smaller appliances** to save energy and reduce heat gain in the kitchen.
3. **Keep blinds, curtains and shades closed** during the hottest part of the day to block direct sunlight.
4. **Use fans** to circulate air, which can make you feel cooler without needing to lower the thermostat.
5. Shift activities that require a lot of energy consumption to **off-peak hours** when demand is lower.



# Co-op Districts and Board Leadership

The East Central Electric Board of Trustees are member-owners of the cooperative, elected by the membership to establish guidelines and policies to ensure the cooperative remains financially stable. Each board member represents one of the seven districts in our service area for a three-year term. Elections for Districts 4 and 7 will be held during the 2025 Annual Meeting.



District 1  
**Larry Harvey**  
Vice President  
lharvey@ecoec.com



District 2  
**Lowell Hobbs**  
President  
lhobbs@ecoec.com



District 3  
**Max Shoemaker**  
Member  
mshoemaker@ecoec.com



District 4  
**Michael Vernnon**  
Member  
mvernon@ecoec.com



District 5  
**Jay Emerson**  
Member  
jemerson@ecoec.com



District 6  
**James Hall Jr.**  
Asst. Secretary/Treasurer  
jhall@ecoec.com



District 7  
**Dwight Luther**  
Secretary/Treasurer  
dluther@ecoec.com

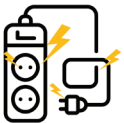
**East Central**  
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

**ANNUAL MEETING JULY 24**

**\$8,000 in Cash Giveaways**

**11 a.m. - 7 p.m.**

**at OSUIT**



## ELECTRICAL SAFETY TIP OF THE MONTH

June 15th is National Electricity Day, marking Benjamin Franklin's famous 1752 kite experiment during a lightning storm that helped us understand the nature of electricity. It is also a powerful reminder to never fly a kite or release balloons near power lines.

SOURCE: SAFEELECTRICITY.ORG



2025 Recipe Contest Dish: \_\_\_\_\_

### Ingredients:

*Directions:*

[illegible]

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_ Act. # \_\_\_\_\_



# East Central

ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

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

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