



# Powerline Press

## NEWSLETTER

A Supplement of Oklahoma Living Published by Lake Region Electric Cooperative for its members.

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# Annual Meeting and Election Results

This year the weather was perfect for an outdoor event.

**A total of 1,172 members attended this year's annual meeting. The total number of people attending the meeting was estimated to be 5,000, including the family members of the LREC members.**

Four candidates were running for the three open trustee positions. The top three voted candidates were elected to the board. Randall Shankle, James Walls, and Gary Cooper. This annual event brings a lot of people to Hulbert every year. A total of over \$5,000 in the form of cash and prizes was given away. The grand prize of \$1,000 cash was won by Richard J. Noll of Tahlequah. The first prize of \$500 was won by Bonnie Kyle of Hulbert and the second prize of \$250 was won by Eugene Adair of Hulbert.

The prize for the oldest gentleman attending the Annual Meeting went to Hoy Anderson



Photo by: Larry Mattes

*Jeff Kimble, Mark Squyres, and Jordan Lechner helped members as they lined up for coffee and other beverages during the annual meeting.*

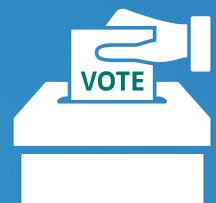
of Locust Grove who is 97 years old. The oldest female attending went to Bertha Steeley of Hulbert who is 93 years young. The youngest boy attending was Wade Craig who was 25 days old, son of Andrea Steeley Craig of Hulbert and the youngest girl attending was Arya Stogsdill, three months old, daughter, of Stefanie & Jonathan Stogsdill of Ft. Gibson.

“LREC makes a difference because we are different. We are member-owned and locally operated. Members have a voice in how the cooperative is run because they elect the board of directors. We are accountable to our member-consumers and not to the distant stockholders. Our rates cover the cost of doing business and are not marked up to generate profit. And finally, we give money back to our members, when revenues exceed

## 2019 Annual Meeting Board of Trustee Election

Randall Shankle .....940  
James Walls .....866

Gary Cooper .....784  
Buddy Spradlin .....385





# Annual Meeting Prize Winners!

Be sure you attend LREC annual meeting and register next year. You could be the next big cash prize winner. Prize winners need not be present to win.



Richard J. Noll of Tahlequah, \$1,000



Bonnie Kyle of Hulbert, \$500



Eugene Adair of Hulbert, \$250



Youngest girl attending, Arya Stogsdill of Ft Gibson, 3 months old, daughter of Stefanie & Jonathan Stogsdill.



Youngest boy attending, Wade Craig of Hulbert, 25 days old, son of Andrea Steeley Craig.



Oldest male attending, Hoy Anderson of Locust Grove, 97 years old



Oldest female attending, Bertha Steeley of Hulbert, 93 years old

## Be Bright with smart LED lights

Make your LED light bulbs even more efficient with smart LEDs. Kids forget to turn their bedroom light off. These bulbs connect to your WIFI so you can turn them off even if you are at work. Plus you can control brightness, warmth, and color.

### Worth the \$\$\$

Smart light bulbs may look similar to regular bulbs, but they can cost approximately \$25 - 50 per bulb. Being LED, they are designed to last for tens of thousands of hours before failing, so you should still get your money's worth.

### Many choices

There are several manufacturers to pick from such as Philips Hue, Lixf, and WiZ. IKEA also has a lighting system - Tradfri. Some brands 143404 allow their bulbs to work with other systems, but for the most part, it is worth picking one and sticking with it. You can control the color and brightness on smart LEDs with the app or voice assistants.



LREC harnessing today's technology to help you manage your energy use.

# Coop Member Leading the Charge Towards Electric Vehicles



LREC members Mark and Elaine Hodson's Tesla Model X

Lake Region Electric Cooperative has been following electric vehicles for several years. Electric vehicles (EVs) are becoming a “hot item” in the auto world, with many manufacturers offering models. As more electric vehicles hit the market, with battery improvements, more people may switch to electric vehicles. As your local energy provider, we watch this because LREC may experience electric load growth with more EVs in our service area.

LREC's first EV venture came in 2013 when the co-op purchased an electric Chevy Volt for our fleet. The goal was to drive, test and learn more about the technology to help educate our members. “We thought this was a great way to learn about EVs, and we can help our members with questions they may have about EVs or home charging stations,” said Glen Clark, Director of Marketing.

LREC enjoys hearing about our members' experiences with EVs. LREC member, Mark Hodson owns two EVs (Tesla Model X SUV (290-mile range) and the Tesla Model 3 Sedan (310-mile range). He was introduced by his son-in-law, who has had a great experience with his EV in Austin, TX. Mark's wife Elaine drives her EV every day around Tahlequah for work. The Hodson family stated they also take several long trips with their EV to visit family in Texas.

“During a recent summer vacation, we drove my six seater and my son-in-law's Tesla SUV to the outer banks of South Carolina. We made the trip there and back with no gas expense. The EV's GPS computer will plan your route with stops, at superchargers (quick charging stations), which will get you a charge in roughly 30 minutes. Most of the charging stations along the route were located at a shopping center with restaurants near main highways. You have to plan your route before any major trip. There are sever-

al smartphone apps for EV drivers, PlugShare, ChargeHub, and Tesla have really nice apps.” said Mark.

“Our primary location to charge our EVs is at home in the garage. We had to add a 50-amp breaker for our garage charging station (level 2). We contacted LREC first to see if our service could handle it. The Tesla home charging unit will charge our vehicles in 7 - 8 hours overnight. There is some upfront cost with the vehicle, installation and wiring for a home charging station. However, we are seeing the savings with electric vs. gas as well as very minimal car maintenance on our EVs,” mentioned Mark.

“Also, the Tesla customer service is great, we had a headlight issue, and they sent out a mobile service van to work on our car at our house.”

LREC invites EV-owning members to talk about their EV experiences with us. We are here to help better serve our members and communities. We are in the planning stages of creating a rebate program for home charging stations.

If you are a member, who owns an EV or looking at purchasing an EV, feel free to contact your local co-op 918-772-2526 or visit our website [www.lrecok.coop/ev](http://www.lrecok.coop/ev) and read more about electric vehicles.

# Operation Round-Up: Your Small Change Can Change Lives



You may think your spare change can't buy much. But, when combined with the spare change of more than **14,000 other LREC members** through Operation Round-Up, it can genuinely change lives. Each month, Operation Round-Up participants choose to round their electric or fiber bill up to the nearest dollar. Those extra cents are put into a charitable account. The pennies, nickels, and dimes deposited in that account are pooled together to help our local communities. Health and rescue organizations, food banks, educational projects, youth programs, and individuals and families in need are just a few of the people and places that receive support through LREC's Operation Round-Up.

LREC has established an independent Operation Round-Up Charitable Trust that oversees the funds and grant donations. This nine-member board is made up of local volunteers from across the service territory. They meet quarterly to review applications and grant donations. Every penny contributed to Operation Round-Up is distributed within the service territory. Your donations stay local!

- Keys High School was awarded \$1,000 for an after graduation event.
- Tahlequah High School was awarded \$1,000 for an after graduation event.
- Tahlequah Community Playhouse (The Penguin Project) was awarded \$3,454 for microphones and receivers for special needs artists.

- Tahlequah Public Schools Resource Officers Jr Police Academy was awarded \$1,000 for a week-long Jr. Police Academy training.
- Wagoner City Public Library was awarded \$3,078 for their summer reading program.
- Hulbert Community Library was awarded \$3,140 for their summer reading program.
- Peggs School was awarded \$675 for workbooks for the academic team.
- Cherokee County Elementary Robotics Program was awarded \$1,000 for a robotics competition.
- Cherokee County 4-H was awarded \$5,000 for a leadership conference and round-up camp.
- Help in Crisis Inc. was awarded \$1,500 for dining tables and bed bug treatment.
- Three local individuals were awarded a total of \$4,462 for medical expenses.

Applications and deadlines are available online at <https://www.lrecok.coop/operation-round-up>

## Your Board of Trustees

Scott Manes.....President  
 Lynn Lamons.....Vice-President  
 Randall Shankle.....Secretary-Treasurer  
 Jack Teague.....Asst. Secretary-Treasurer  
 James Walls ..... Trustee  
 Gary Cooper .....Trustee  
 Dianna Mayfield.....Trustee

## Staff

Hamid Vahdatipour .....CEO  
 Ben McCollum .....Director of Finance  
 Logan Pleasant.....Director of Operations  
 Glen Clark .....Director of Marketing  
 Larry Mattes.....Communications  
 Tina Glory-Jordan .....Attorney

## Office Hours

Monday-Friday  
 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

## Telephone

800-364-LREC or  
 918-772-2526

## Website:

[www.lrecok.coop](http://www.lrecok.coop)  
[www.lrecok.net](http://www.lrecok.net)

## Locations

Hulbert, Wagoner &  
 Tahlequah, OK.

## Main Office Address

P.O. Box 127  
 Hulbert, OK 74441

## Hidden Account Number

Look for your account number hidden in this issue of the *Powerline Press*. If you find your number, Lake Region Electric will credit your next bill. To claim your credit, notify LREC's Hulbert office by phone during the month of publication.

The amount increases by \$10 with each issue your prize goes unclaimed to a maximum of \$50.

**Cooperative bylaws** are available upon request at Lake Region Electric Cooperative's office in Hulbert.

