



Powerline Press

NEWSLETTER

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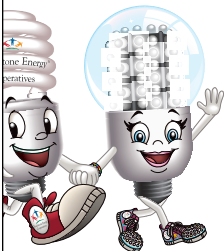
Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Circulate savings!
Ceiling fans are a great way to keep cool during summer months and can even allow you to raise your thermostat setting about 4 degrees without affecting your comfort.

Source: energy.gov

Thank You

LREC would like to thank all the members who attended this year's annual meeting and voted.



LREC Annual Meeting Election Results

Randall Shankle...**864** Gary Cooper...**655** James Walls...**653** Eugene Adair...**605** Jim Loftin...**443**

LREC had a total of 1,259 registered members, with an estimated total, including family, near 5,000 in attendance.

We had another successful annual meeting this year. After a stormy night and a rainy morning, the weather cooperated with a cloudy day and just the right temperature for a day to get out and visit with friends and neighbors.

Five candidates were running for the three open trustee positions. The trustee positions are at large. The three candidates with the highest number of votes are elected to the board. The election results are as follows: Randall Shankel 864 votes, Gary Cooper 655 votes, James Walls 653 votes, Eugene Adair 605 votes, and Jim Loftin 443 votes. Randall Shankle, Gary Cooper and James Walls were elected to the board. The officers of the board are as follows: Bobby Mayfield, President;



Photo by: Larry Matthes



Scott Manes, Vice President; Jack Teague, Secretary/Treasurer; and Lynn Lamons as Assistant Secretary/Treasurer.

Members who voted in the election were given meal coupons provided by LREC. Members could use food coupons to enjoy a meal at the annual meeting prepared by local volunteer fire departments. Food coupons were also accepted by local restaurants in the surrounding towns.

► *Annual Meeting Continued on page 2*

2016 Annual Meeting Prize Winners!



Youngest girl attending, Elizabeth Walls 2 and a half years old, daughter of James and Nicole Walls of Hulbert.



Youngest boy attending, Benjamin Stogsdill, son of Stefanie and John Stogsdill of Tahlequah.



Oldest female attending, Nellie Anderson of Tahlequah who is 96 years young.



Oldest male attending, Joe Thornton of Tahlequah who is 99 years young.



Terri Dallis of Tahlequah won the \$1,000 grand prize.



Bruce Fisher of Tahlequah won the \$500 first prize.



Jeff Fisher of Hulbert won the \$250 second prize.

Annual Meeting

► Continued from page 1

"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 have a vote. We are accountable to our members and not distant stockholders," said Hamid Vahdatipour, CEO.

The business meeting was held at 1:00 p.m. Hamid Vahdatipour, CEO, gave the financial report and a Q&A session for members interested in answering questions regarding the finances.

This annual event brings lots 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 Terri Dallis of Tahlequah. The first prize of \$500 was won by Bruce Fisher of Tahlequah and the second prize of \$250 was won by Jeff Fisher of Hulbert 222108.

Every year, LREC gives prizes for the youngest girl and boy and the oldest female and male in attendance.

The youngest girl prize went to Elizabeth Walls, daughter of James and Nicole Walls of Hulbert. The youngest boy prize went to Benjamin Stogsdill, son of Jonathan and Stefanie Stogsdill of Tahlequah who is also the grandson of CEO Vahdatipour.

The prize for the oldest female went to Nellie Anderson of Tahlequah who is 96 years old. The prize for the oldest male went to Joe Thornton of Park Hill who is 99 years old.



Increases in LREC Electric Rates Start in July 2016

The Lake Region Electric Cooperative Inc. Board of Directors is announcing the first increase in electric rates since 2009. As a not-for-profit cooperative, our goal is to set rates as close to our actual cost as possible, while maintaining the financial requirements set forth by our lending agencies. The Board and Management of your cooperative take a rate increase very seriously and we are constantly looking for ways to be more efficient and keep expenses down. Despite the increase, LREC members' electric rates will still remain below the average for Oklahoma residents. All bills rendered on or after July 1, 2016 will reflect the increase in rates.

Much like the increasing cost of the goods we purchase for

our homes and family, the cost of the Cooperative's materials and supplies used for our operations and maintenance have also increased. These increases are in addition to the escalating power cost due to increases in the cost of coal, its transportation and associated environmental compliance. All of these factors have made it necessary to increase rates to our members.

Members should have received a letter in the mail regarding the rate increase. You may obtain further information concerning the proposed rate changes and/or a copy of the proposed rate changes by calling the Cooperative at 918-772-2526.

Fort Gibson FFA Student Shows Grand Champion Market Goat

More than 7,000 kids and their families attended Oklahoma Youth Expo (OYE) in Oklahoma City in mid-March. OYE is recognized as the world's largest junior livestock show and an event which highlights the world's best and brightest young people.

LREC is proud to be a part of rural Oklahoma and sponsor several local livestock shows. This year's OYE Grand Champion goat was raised by 14 year-old Megan Greathouse of Ft. Gibson. Megan also won the Muskogee Regional Livestock Show.

Megan was introduced to livestock at a young age and started showing when she was four years old. Her grandparents raised boer goats and show in the open ABGA sanctioned shows.

A great amount of time is involved in FFA. Showing livestock requires a strict dedication throughout the process. From the selection of the animal through the final show. This is a full time commitment. Megan works with her animals most every night in preparation for the shows plus the time that she and her family spend actually at a show.



2016 OYE Grand Champion Market Goat winner, Megan Greathouse, of the Ft. Gibson FFA. Megan won a 2016 4-Star 14' aluminum trailer.

"Hard work pays off, it goes along with the time put in, feeding, watering, and working with the livestock. The competition is extremely tough at OYE and it is truly an honor and a blessing to have the Grand Champion market goat," said Megan.

There was a total of 811 goats at OYE in the market wether goat division. Megan's grand champion goat sold for \$12,000 in the sale of Champions plus she won a 1 year lease on a trailer.

Students hard work pays off for several local students at OYE livestock auction.

Dylan Simpson - Locust Grove 4-H
Julie Isbell - Fort Gibson 4-H
Garret Todd - Proter FFA
Kate Buckmaster - Porter FFA
Parker Lockhart - Fort Gibson 3rd grader
Karson Osborn - Fort Gibson 4-H
Katie Chance - Locust Grove FA

Operation Round-Up Update

Hulbert, Wagoner, Keys, and Tahlequah Public Schools all receive grants from Operation Round-Up.

Through LREC's Operation Round-Up program, members voluntarily "round-up" their electric bills to the nearest dollar each month. Each participant donates an average of \$6 a year, all of which goes directly toward meeting local needs.

LREC members who participate in the Operation Round-Up program help make these grants possible. This program is making a significant impact on our local communities.

The Operation Round-Up Foundation Board met during their regular business meeting, held on April 27, 2016. During the meeting, grants were awarded to:

- Keys Cougars Special Olympics was awarded \$1,500 for expenses for regional and state competitions.
- Tahlequah High School Art Club was awarded \$750 to assist with expenses for the Art Extravaganza.
- Tahlequah Save-A-Senior was awarded \$1,000 to assist with expenses for the 2016 after graduation party.
- Keys High School was awarded \$1,000 to assist with expenses for the 2016 after graduation party.
- Wagoner City Public Library was awarded \$2,528 for

their summer reading program.

- Hulbert High School Senior Class was awarded \$1,000 to assist with expenses for the 2016 after graduation party..
- Hulbert Community Public Library was awarded \$2,500 for their summer reading program.
- City of Wagoner was awarded \$3,145 for a veterans memorial to be located in front of the armory.
- Cherokee Capital, OK Chapter Blue Star Mothers was awarded \$1,500 for items for packages mailed over seas to active duty military.

Electric cooperatives were founded on the principle of concern for community. The Operation Round-Up Board meets quarterly to review requests. The next Operation Round-Up meeting will be held July 27, 2016. For grant application or more information about Operation Round-Up, visit our website www.lrecok.coop or call 918-772-2526.



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Office Hours

Monday-Friday
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Telephone

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Website:

www.lrecok.coop

Locations

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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 or mail during the month of publication.

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

For more information, call 800-364-LREC or 918-772-2526

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