

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

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Record Rain Fall Keeps Co-op from Meeting Annual Meeting quorum requirements

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Let the sun work for you! Consider solar lights for outdoor lighting. Solar cells convert sunlight into electricity that can be stored in a battery and tapped at night to make light. Check manufacturers' instructions to make sure your solar lights are situated to receive sufficient sunlight to recharge during the day.

Source: U.S Department of Energy



LREC would like to thank all the members who braved the bad weather to attend the Annual Meeting of the Membership and voted. We encountered one of the worst storm and flooding events in the history of LREC's Annual Meetings. About 8 inches of rain fell during Friday night and Saturday causing massive flooding.

Due to safety concerns, Emergency Management officials discouraged the public from venturing out unless they had to. Despite all these difficulties, many members of LREC braved the elements and participated in the annual meeting of their cooperative.

For the first time in the history of LREC Annual Meetings, we failed to reach the quorum requirements. The state law and the cooperative bylaws require that five per centum of the members present in person shall constitute a quorum. If less than a quorum is present at any meeting, a majority of those present in person may adjourn the meeting from time to time without further notice. We needed 983 members in attendance to achieve the quorum requirement. Unfortunately, the total members in attendance was 928.

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No. 6



LREC employees left to right: Jeff Kimble, Jerry Latty, Brent Lamons, Steve Hammer, and Ron Daniels.





Youngest girl attending, Pepper Hughes three years old, daughter of Ed and Jennifer Hughes of Hulbert.



Youngest boy attending, Jeremy Lisenbee 24 months old, son of Randi Lisenbee of Hulbert.



Oldest female attending, Mrs. Wonda Howard of Tahlequah who is 85 years young.



Oldest male attending, Guy Wilson of Hulbert who is 99 years young.

2017 Annual Meeting

Continued from page 1

We were 55 members short of meeting the quorum. The Annual Meeting was adjourned with no official action taken. Actions listed on the agenda for the 2017 Annual Meeting will be placed on the agenda for the 2018 Annual Meeting of the members. In accordance with the LREC bylaws, the two board members whose terms were to expire this year will remain on the board and will have to run next year for the remaining two years of those three-year terms. The 2018 Annual Meeting will include elections for these two trustee positions with terms ending in April of 2020 and also for the two trustee positions with terms ending in April of 2021.

This annual event brings a large number 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 went to Rhonda Wilson of Hulbert, The first prize of \$500 was won by the Green Country Coon Hunters of Welling and the second prize of \$250 was won by David Harris of Hulbert.

"LREC makes a difference because we are different. We are member-owned and locally operated. 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 costs," said Hamid Vahdatipour, LREC Chief Executive Officer.

LREC is a non-profit rural electric cooperative serving electricity to over 24,500 meters in seven counties in northeast Oklahoma, including Cherokee, Wagoner, Muskogee Rogers, Adair, Sequoyah, and Mayes Counties.



Rhonda Wilson of Hulbert won the \$1,000 grand prize.



Green County Coon Hunters of Welling won the \$500 *first prize.*



David Harris of Hulbert won the \$250 second prize.



Fiber-to-the-Home Construction Update

Lake Region is building fiber optic cable from our electric substations and using existing poles. We are using a crowdsourcing website to find where the demand is. The zones that have the most backers pre-registered will be the zones where we will build fiber optic lines. Do not wait, this is a great technology, sign-up! Complete the online backer form today and help bring this great service to your zone. This all depends on our members signing up and letting us know where we need to build service. You can access our map of FTTH expansion zones at **register.lrecok.net**

Those of you who have already signed up and are waiting patiently in the crowd, are on the ground floor of this landmark fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) revolution. We are building a fiber communications network from scratch, with a lot of moving parts. We appreciate your patience in our fiber network construction process.

- Zone 5 – Perk is complete. If a member signs up in this zone, it may take up to 3 - 4 weeks before crews will come back to this zone to install fiber. Thank you to all the pre-registration in this zone. We have 290 connected in this zone.

- **Zone 1 – Ft Gibson** is 90% Complete. Home installs are under way and members need to sign up now while crews are still working in this zone. We do not want to miss anyone who may be interested.

- **Zone 2** – **Hulbert** construction is moving forward, and we are hoping to have service available to all pre-registered members in this zone in roughly three months.

- Zone 11 – County Line, our electric lines are in the process of being relocated now for the Cherokee Nation road widening project. Once this is complete fiber contractors will start in this zone.

- Zone 3 – Keys, Zone - 12 Sparrow Hawk and Zone 7 - Sleepy Hollow, the fiber POP buildings have been set. Once we get closer to the goal needed, we will release the final design and construction. Now is the time to take the plunge and pre-register for blazing fast fiber-to-the-home internet, cable TV and home phone. Help your zone reach the goal of backers needed and start construction.

If you have any fiber-to-the-home questions, please give us a call at 918-772-2526.

NEW EXEDE SATELLITE INTERNET PLANS

Lake Region Electric Cooperative is an authorized dealer of Exede satellite internet service by ViaSat. We can provide satellite **internet anywhere**, all we have to do is install a dish on your property. All our Exede plans are fast 12 Mbps download & 3 Mbps upload. Just choose how much data you need. If you are interested in signing up for satellite internet, please visit our website https://goo.gl/ gtVcAS or call our office at 918-772-2526. If you are on an older plan and want to switch your current plan, please give us a call, and we can help you get the best plan and most data for your money.





All Liberty plans have no hard data caps. You will receive your monthly data allowance at 12 Mbps speeds. If you go over your monthly data limit, you will be allowed to continue using data at download speeds anywhere from 1 to 5 Mbps. This is referred to as your liberty pass. No overage fees. Your internet speed with only be slowed down in speed.

918-772-2526

peration 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 658603 local communities.

The Operation Round-Up Foundation Board met during their regular business meeting held on April 26, 2017. During the meeting, grants were awarded to:

- Two individuals were each awarded \$2,500 for medical expenses.
- "Tahlequah Feed My Sheep" was awarded \$5,000 to assist with expenses and food supplies.
- "Men in the Making" was awarded \$6,000 to assist with expenses for mentoring program.
- Tahlequah High School Art Department was awarded \$700 for expenses for their Arts in the Park Exhibit.
- Wagoner High School was awarded \$1,000 to assist with expenses for the after graduation party.
- Wagoner Education Foundation was awarded \$1,500 for grants for local teachers.
- Rock Our Hulbert Community (ROHC) was awarded \$10,000 for building renovations.
- Blue Star Mothers, Cherokee Capital OK 21 was

awarded \$1,500 for postage for mailing boxes to troops overseas.

- Wagoner City Public Library was awarded \$2,450 for their summer reading program.
- Peggs School Robotics was awarded \$699.94 assistance with robotics program.
- Tahlequah Save-A-Senior was awarded \$1,000 to assist with expenses for the after graduation party.

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 26, 2017. For grant application or more information about Operation Round-Up, visit our website www.lrecok.coop or call 918-772-2526.

Help keep curious kids safe!

As the weather continues to warm, kids will be spending more time outside. Remind them to never tamper with outdoor electrical boxes. And if there is any damage, report it to your utility immediately.



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www.lrecok.coop

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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.

LREC Powerline Press