



"Owned By Those We Serve"

CELEBRATING 80 YEARS • 1938-2018

POWER

Source

April 2018 Vol. 22 No. 4

This Institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer



FEC

FREE ELECTRICITY!

You could be the lucky winner of our **GRAND PRIZE**, (\$1,000 in free electricity), at Farmers' Electric Cooperative's 80th Annual Membership Meeting

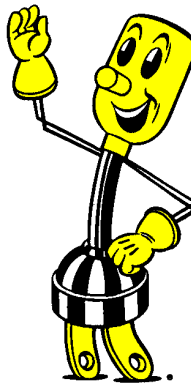
Registration: 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Business Meeting: 10:30 a.m.
Lunch: Following Business Meeting

Grady High School Gym
100 Franklin Street
Grady, New Mexico

Saturday, May 5, 2018

To take action upon the following matters:

- The reports of Officers, Trustees, and Committees
- The elections of Trustees from:
District 1 (Clovis)
District 4 (Santa Rosa)
District 6 (Broadview/Grady)
- All other business which may come before the meeting or any adjournments thereof
- Door prizes for adults and children
- Grand Prize Drawing (\$1,000 in FREE ELECTRICITY!)
- Two special drawings (\$50 Energy Certificates for "First-Time attendance)
- Traditional BBQ lunch will be served following Business Mtg.



Switch to Safety

WITH THE FLIP OF A SWITCH, we can light our world. But, it's important to remember the powerful electric force that the switch controls and make sure it is operating safely.

Don't ignore these warning signs:

- The wall plate is hot to the touch.
- There is discoloration on or around the switch plate.
- Lights dim and/or flicker without apparent cause or when other appliances are turned off or on.
- You hear cracking, popping, or buzzing from a switch or an outlet.
- Breakers trip or fuses blow when the switch is turned on.
- You detect an odor when a switch is used.
- The switch leans to one side or feels loose when operating.
- You experience a shock when operating the switch.
- The home is more than 40 years old and has aluminum wiring, but has not recently undergone a safety inspection by an electrician.



If any of these are happening in your home, have a licensed electrician inspect your home's electrical system as soon as possible.

Manager's Message...**Lance Adkins, GM**

Practical Electric Vehicles Making Headway

Have you noticed how many electric vehicles (EVs) are rolling around in our area lately? Okay, I admit, I haven't seen very many either. I do recall several of the Honda EV models in the distant past and even had the opportunity to take a ride in one from Clovis to Melrose to attend an evening Rotary meeting. I also recall in 1998, national recognition given Kris Trexler from California and his GM EV1, in his "Charge Across America," with preplanned stops in Santa Rosa and Tucumcari to recharge the batteries.

Early electric cars were generally only available by lease through the manufacturers and have largely disappeared from the roadways. It is interesting to note that electric cars were in the mix in the early days of the automobile, with improvements in the internal combustion engine, along with limitations in battery range killing the EV in all but limited applications by the "Roaring Twenties."

In recent years, rapid advances in battery technology have increased the range and reduced the cost of EVs. Coupled with Federal tax incentives, currently \$7,500, and state or local incentives available in some areas, the cost of an EV is now on par with a similar gasoline powered unit. Just last year Chevrolet made history with the "Bolt," an all-electric car with a stated range of 238 miles on a full charge and a base cost of roughly \$39,000 before Federal Tax reduction and other incentives. Of course, the proof is "in the pudding," so they say. I am aware of two rural electric cooperatives which have purchased Bolts for use and evaluation, Otero County Electric Cooperative, Cloudcroft and CK Energy, Binger, Oklahoma. CK Energy has a "blog" detailing their good, bad, and ugly experiences with EV. Readers are encouraged to take a look at CK Energy's experiences at CK-Energy.coop, under the Energy Efficiency tab on their Home Page. One thing that sparked my interest is the comparative low cost of operation per mile when compared to gasoline.

Our wholesale power supplier, Western Farmers Electric Cooperative (WFEC), is currently working to take advantage of short-term state tax incentives in Oklahoma that support development of public EV charging infrastructure. In addition, WFEC is working with a coalition of entities in Oklahoma to develop a website dedicated to providing a resource for all things EV. We will provide more information about this website in future publications. Just for grins I logged on to their prototype website to check the availability of public charging stations across the 11,000 square-mile service territory of Farmers' Electric (FEC). I found two "Tesla" charging stations, one in Santa Rosa and one in Tucumcari and a Level 2 charging station located at the Blue Swallow Motel in Tucumcari. Currently, Tesla charging stations are only available for

*2018 Chevy Bolt*

Board of Trustees:
Mike West
President
George Dodge
Vice President
Donnie Bidegain
Secretary-Treasurer
Paul Quintana
Trustee
Pat Woods
Trustee
Billy Tate
Trustee
Ernest Riley
Trustee

General Manager:
Lance R. Adkins

POWER SOURCE

is published monthly by Farmers' Electric Cooperative, Inc. Questions or article ideas should be directed to :
 Thom J. Moore,
POWER SOURCE
 P. O. Box 550
 Clovis, New Mexico
 88102-0550
 Phone 762-4466 or
 1-800-445-8541
 thom@fecnm.org

To Report An Outage

We are on-call 24 hours each day, 365 days each year, to serve **your** electric power needs.

Clovis
 762-4466
Fort Sumner
 355-2291
Santa Rosa
 472-3971
Toll Free
 1-800-445-8541

Members registering at the Annual Meeting of Members on behalf of a partnership, organization, church, trust, corporation, partnership, governmental agency, limited liability company, or sole proprietorship should present documentation at registration denoting such. For convenience, a blank form below has been provided to accomplish this. This form or affidavit should be signed and notarized. The form can be delivered by the appointed individual at the time of registration at the Annual Meeting. No person may vote more than one time or receive more than one ballot. For more information, call: (800) 445-8541 or (575) 762-4466

FARMERS' ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. OF NEW MEXICO

Affidavit for use by a Non-Individual Member to Authorize a Voting Representative

I, _____ do hereby certify that _____ is the voting representative of _____ (name of entity) and is the duly authorized legal representative for such entity for the purpose of voting on any and all matters that may arise at the annual meeting of members of Farmers' Electric Cooperative, Inc. of New Mexico (hereinafter referred to as "Farmers' Electric") as held on May 5, 2018 in Grady, New Mexico to vote on behalf of _____ (name of entity) on any and all matters that may arise at the annual meeting of members of Farmers' Electric. This affidavit shall remain in effect through said meeting date unless earlier canceled by written notice received by Farmers' Electric.

Type of Entity: (please specify)

- Organization
- Church
- Trust
- Corporation
- Partnership
- Governmental Agency
- Limited Liability Company
- Sole Proprietorship

STATE OF NEW MEXICO)
)
COUNTY OF _____)

SIGNATURE

TITLE

Cooperative Member's Qualifying Telephone Number

On This _____ day of _____, 2018, personally appeared before me _____, being know to be the person and acknowledging the forgoing instrument.

(SEAL)

My Commission Expires: _____

Notary Public

Pole Testers in Area

Continuing through the end of July or the beginning of August, weather permitting, GLS, Ground Line Services out of San Antonio, Texas, will be testing poles for Farmers' Electric Cooperative (FEC) out of the Weber City Substation. These areas would include, House, Fields, Forrest, Ragland, Quay Valley, Jordan, McAlister, and north of Taiban.

Pole testing is a yearly maintenance program that FEC performs, however, every pole is not tested each year, rather, FEC strives to test each on a ten-year rotation.

This type of maintenance program helps to ensure that FEC can continue to supply the very safest, reliable electricity to our members.



All FEC contractors should be marked as such, "FEC Contractor" on their vehicle. If you have any questions about pole testing or the pole testers, please feel free to contact the office at (800) 445-8541 and ask for Member Services.



Well, they're at it again... We have just learned that there is an active scam going on with calls being made to members of Farmers' Electric Cooperative (FEC). These scammers are demanding payment of electrical accounts and threatening disconnection of electric service if immediate payment by credit card is not made. Again, this is a SCAM!

If you receive such a call, hang up immediately and call FEC at (800) 445-8541. These scammers want you to make

See SCAM on PAGE 4

EV from PAGE 2

Tesla cars. Major metropolitan areas have made significant investment in public charging infrastructure, with charging often available at no cost at the point of use to promote EV growth in their communities.

Major automobile manufacturers appear to believe the time is now for EV with most planning to introduce a variety of new models in the near future. Ford, GM, and Toyota alone plan to introduce some forty new EVs over the next seven years, including SUV, performance, and utility models. So, when do we expect EVs to be a common sight in our area? One of the primary concerns expressed by potential consumers is the lack of public charging infrastructure. Most industry insiders expect EV growth in rural areas to be slow, estimating less than one percent penetration by 2025. Even with the reduced cost and extended range, the limited availability of public charging infrastructure and the time required to charge, appear to relegate EVs to the local commuter car category for the foreseeable future.

Until next time,



SCAM from PAGE 3

an immediate payment or they are trying to get your credit card information or bank information. Do not give them anything!

Again, if you get a call and someone is claiming to be a representative of FEC and you have your doubts, contact the office immediately for verification. Call FEC at (800) 445-8541.

Also, if you are contacted by these scammers and would like to file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), you can, by calling (877) 382-4357.

Are You Ready for 'Bobservations?'



"Vegetarian is an old Indian word that means: bad hunter."

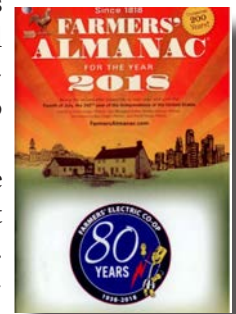
"Always borrow from a pessimist, they never expect to be paid back."

"The length of a minute depends on which side of the bathroom door you are standing on."

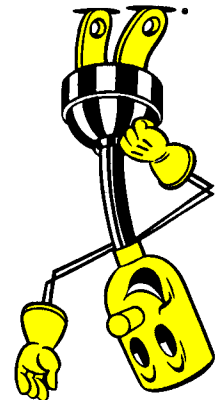
These are "Bobservations." You can expect plenty of these, as well as a lot of family-friendly humor when Bob Farmer headlines this year's FEC Annual Meeting. Bob will bring his unique style of down-home storytelling to Grady to help us celebrate 80 years!

Don't miss your chance to see one of the most sought-after humorist and motivational speakers around. Bob uses the popular Farmers' Almanac as part of his side-splitting presentation. Rich in American heritage and steeped with tradition, the Farmers' Almanac is one of the oldest, most respected publications in the nation. In conjunction with Bob's appearance, members who attend the Annual Meeting will receive a complimentary copy of the 2018 collectible edition of the Farmers' Almanac in their goody bags.

This year's Annual Meeting promises to be a treat for young and old alike! So make plans now to attend, and get ready for some "Bobservations."



"Owned By Those We Serve"



PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
CLOVIS, NM
PERMIT NO. 64

FARMERS' ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
OF NEW MEXICO
3701 Thornton St., P.O. Box 550
Clovis, New Mexico 88102-0550