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POWER

Source

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This Institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer



80th Annual Meeting of Members!

Farmers' Electric Cooperative held its 80th Annual Meeting of members Saturday, May 5, 2018 at the Grady High School Gym, Grady, New Mexico with 202 members and their guests present. Board President, Michael West, called the business meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Trustees, William (Billy) Tate (District 1 - Clovis), George Dodge, Jr. (District 4 - Santa Rosa), and John (Pat) Woods (District 6 - Broadview/Grady) ran unopposed and were re-elected by acclamation. Terms for FEC Trustee positions are three years.



Thanks go out to all those in attendance and all the employees who worked to help make the annual meeting a huge success. Employees who worked, (not eligible for annual meeting door prizes), did participate in a separate drawing. The winner, Tyler Cabeldue, Area Foreman from Clovis, will receive a gift certificate to his favorite restaurant, courtesy of Farmers' Electric. Congratulations Tyler!

Congratulations also go out to Raymond Walker of Logan for winning this year's grand prize of \$1,000 in free electricity! Two "first-time" attendee prizes, (\$50 energy certificates), were also awarded. A child's grand prize of a NextBook 8" Quad-Core Android Tablet was awarded to a lucky young person in attendance. There were a total of 110 prizes awarded to adults and children.



A special "Thank You" goes out to Grady School Superintendent, Elnabeth Grau, the Freshman class and sponsors for all their help serving the meal to approximately 400 guests. Also, thanks to Bigham's BBQ out of Lubbock, Texas for catering an exceptionally good traditional BBQ lunch.

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MORE PICS from PAGE 1



Board of Trustees:
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Trustee
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Pole Top Rescue Training

As a lineman, you hope you never need to use it. As a victim, you pray someone knows how to use it. Pole top rescue is just as the phrase implies. It is a routine that linemen learn and practice because, if there is ever an accident involving a fellow lineman, he/she can be brought down safely.

During their training, the lineman first climbs the pole. They are safely belted around the pole so he/she will be able to work, “hands free.” A rope is looped over the cross arm and then tied around the chest of the injured lineman. A life-sized mannequin, weighing approximately 175 lbs., is used during this exercise in training). This may sound fairly easy so far, however, consider this – the rescuer has to think about where his hooks are in the pole, where to throw the rope over the cross arm so it doesn’t get crossed or snagged, how he is going to tie the knot around the victim so that it will stay tight, and finally, how he/she will lower their buddy down in less than three minutes in order to start CPR – it gets very difficult and very stressful.

Our linemen practice pole top rescue procedures until they become routine. If a situation in the field ever arises, the rescue would almost be second nature. FEC linemen attend monthly safety meetings to sharpen their skills and learn safe working practices and procedures. As for pole top rescue, this is one skill they hope they never have to use.



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PLEASE MOVE OVER FOR EMERGENCY AND UTILITY CREWS

If you see police, firefighters, utility crews, or other emergency personnel on the side of the road, please slow down and move over when safely possible.

Together, we can keep our crews safe.



WARNING!

If you connect an electric generator to the main electrical supply coming into the house, the electrical generator could feed back into Farmers’ Electric’s system and electrocute workers who are repairing the electrical lines.

To avoid this type of back-feeding onto the system, you must have a qualified, licensed electrician install a double-pole, double-throw transfer switch between the generator and utility power in compliance with all state and local electrical codes. (A minimum of 10-gauge wiring must be used.)

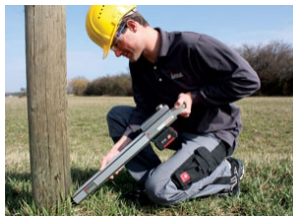
Your generator might not be large enough to handle the load of all the lights, appliances, TV, etc. at one time. To prevent dangerous overloading, calculate wattage requirements correctly.

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.

Plant A Tree!

By planting trees in and around your property, you could help save money on air conditioning in the very near future and at the same time add value to, while beautifying your home.

Strategically placed trees can block your home from the hot summer sun well enough to reflect savings on your summer cooling bills.

Here's how:

- Plant ash, oak, Bradford Pear other trees on the west and south sides of a home to cast shade on walls or windows that would otherwise soak up the hot sun. When these trees lose their leaves in the winter, they'll let the sun's rays help warm your home through solar heating.
- Block strong winds from whipping around your home by planting rows of evergreens near your home.
- Locate trees near windows.
- Work with a landscaper or nursery to choose the right tree for your location and soil type.
- Choose trees that will grow tall and provide ample shade. Be sure to plant them far away from overhead power lines.

Before you dig, call New Mexico One-Call Center (811) to make sure no power lines or other utilities are buried where you plan to plant. It's a free service!



Cool Down Refrigerator Costs

As warm temperatures settle in for the summer, refrigerators are set to get a workout keeping food and drinks cool for hot and thirsty friends and family members. Follow these tips to reduce the amount of energy your refrigerator uses.



Minimize the number of times you open your refrigerator. Plan accordingly so you don't have to leave the door open for prolonged periods of time. An open door allows warm, moist air to enter, which makes the compressor work harder and longer.

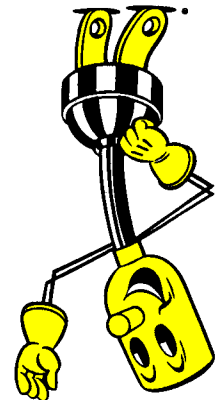
Set the appropriate temperature. Keep your refrigerator set at 35 to 38 degrees Fahrenheit.

Place your refrigerator in a cool place. Position the refrigerator away from heat sources such as an oven, a dishwasher, or direct sunlight from a window.

Allow air circulation behind the refrigerator. Leave a few inches between the wall and the refrigerator and keep the condenser coils clean if you have an older model. Read the user's manual to learn how to properly and safely clean the condenser coils.

Check the door seals. Make sure the refrigerator seals around the door are airtight and snug. If not, replace them.

If you buy a new refrigerator, be sure to recycle your old one. Many appliance retailers will pick up and recycle your old refrigerator when you purchase a new one. Putting your old frig in the garage or shop will defeat your purpose and add to your electric bill.



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