

# FEC® POWER

## Source

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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



## Scholarship Applications Available Now...

Farmers' Electric Cooperative will be awarding scholarships again this year through the Farmers' Electric Education Foundation. Scholarship applications may be obtained from area high school guidance counselors or from cooperative office locations in Clovis, Ft. Sumner, and Santa Rosa. Scholarship applications can also be requested by calling the Clovis office at 575-762-4466 or 800-445-8541 or by going online to [www.fecnm.org](http://www.fecnm.org). All cooperative members and their dependents are eligible to apply for these scholarships.

Only the interest earned on donations is used for scholarships, ensuring that the Education Foundation will continue to support higher education for our members for many years to come. Through 2016, the foundation has awarded 1091 scholarships totaling \$746,280.00.

### Don't Delay! Deadline For Applications Is **February 1, 2017!**

This year there are two different scholarship forms. Be sure when requesting a form that you specify either the "Graduating High School Student Application" or the "Returning College Application." Both forms are available from any FEC office or are available to download from [www.fecnm.org](http://www.fecnm.org).



The Farmers' Electric Education Foundation was established by the members of the cooperative in 1986 and is funded through donated and unclaimed patronage capital refunds and donations by private individuals.

## Youth Tour 2017



In 2017, FEC will again sponsor two area high school Juniors (summer after Junior year) on the week-long, Government in Action Youth Tour in Washington, D. C. Please call 800-445-8541 for more details on this exciting opportunity! We promise this will be a trip of a lifetime!

## NO RUST. NO LEAKS. NO WORRIES.

Call Farmers' Electric Cooperative today to get special pricing on Rheem-Marathon electric water heaters!



**Marathon**  
WATER HEATERS

800-445-8541

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

## October Is National Cooperative Month; What would life be like without your electric cooperative?

Every October, cooperatives are recognized for the qualities that make the business model unique. Seven cooperative principles set us apart from other businesses: voluntary and open membership; democratic member control; member's economic participation; autonomy and independence; education, training and information; cooperation among cooperatives; and concern for community.

All across America the "cooperative" way of providing a wide range of goods and services to the members they were created to represent is alive and well. Here at home we are likely to shop at retail stores that are able to offer goods at prices that are competitive with the "big-box" stores. Businesses like our local ACE, True Value and Do It Best Hardware are able to maximize their joint purchasing power enabling them to offer quality products at affordable prices. In the grocery store, some of the products on the shelves are a result of agriculture producers combining their efforts under names like Sunkist, Ocean Spray, Land O' Lakes and others.

In the 1930s, rural America wanted and needed electricity just as much as those who lived in the city. It was a major challenge that big utilities weren't interested in tackling. So, the men and women of rural America banded together and made it happen. Farmers' Electric Cooperative (FEC) was formed in 1938, for the sole purpose of providing members with safe, reliable and affordable electricity, but there's more to it than that. We are local, and that means we care about the communities where we serve. This is why we participate in local Chambers of Commerce to foster economic stability and growth; support education through FEC's education foundation with scholarships and the Government In Action Youth Tour; and promote safety through participation in area farm safety day-camps and safety demonstrations.

In the holiday movie classic, "It's a Wonderful Life" the lead character, George Bailey (played by Jimmy Stewart), wishes he had never been born due to financial troubles he is experiencing. Through the help of an angel, he sees how many lives would have been negatively affected if he didn't exist. George comes to realize that, even with his struggles, he has a wonderful life with great friends and family. So what do you think life would be like if community leaders had not founded Farmers' Electric over 78 years ago?

Living in America today, it is nearly impossible to imagine life without electricity. So many of the modern conveniences that improve the quality of our lives depend on electric energy to make them work. From the alarm clock that wakes us up, to refrigeration that keeps our food cold and fresh. From the HVAC unit that provides cooling in the summer and heating in the winter, to all those kitchen appliances that save us time and physical energy. Entertainment too, TV, radio, computer, even our smartphones use batteries that require frequent charging.

And that's why in October, we celebrate the power of working together for the common good and improving the quality of life for our friends and neighbors.

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**POWER SOURCE**

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 1-800-445-8541  
[www.fecnm.org](http://www.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

## Give Your Breaker Box A Workout?

**D**o you exercise your breakers? Unless your electricity suddenly shuts off, it's likely you rarely give a second thought to the health of the breaker box where your home's electrical switches "live." But to keep it in good shape, you should open it periodically for a tune up.

Breakers should be "exercised" or turned on or off about once a year to make sure they have not gotten stuck and to keep them in good working order.

First, turn off the freezer, refrigerator, and air conditioner, as their motors can become damaged with frequent power interruptions when they are operating. Second, flip each breaker off and on three times remembering to leave them on when complete.

If you have ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) installed in your breaker box, you should open the box up for testing more frequently – about once every two months. GFCIs are designed to break a faulty circuit and protect you from shock, but they can do so only if they are operating properly. Because a GFCI does not have an alert if it has become defective, it's important to test yours regularly.

To test a GFCI, push the "test" button. The breaker handle should move to the middle or off position. This means it's working properly. To reset it, move the breaker to the off position and then to the on position. If the test failed, call a licensed electrician to have the GFCI circuit breaker replaced.



## Ask The Energy Guys

**Q.** Hey Energy Guys! A friend of mine says I shouldn't put my old fridge in the garage to keep cold drinks in. He says it will cost me money. I'm replacing it with a new, energy efficient model. What do you think?

**A.** Great question! We've been waiting for someone to ask this one!

If you buy a new refrigerator and put the old one out in the garage to handle "overload," you will pay dearly.

Older refrigerators and freezers use up to twice the energy of new, energy efficient models, especially if the new one carries the ENERGY STAR label. In fact, it could cost you up to \$175 a year on your electric bill to run that old energy hog.

Plus, using a refrigerator in a garage is even more inefficient. When it's hot outside, it gets really hot in the garage, which probably is not insulated or air conditioned. This means your refrigerator has to work overtime to keep things cool inside. Remember, refrigerators work with return air, and if that air is hot, it will cause your refrigerator to work harder and longer.

The solution: Have your old refrigerator hauled away to a place that recycles older models. Buying a new, small unit to handle your overflow will be worth it as it saves money on your electric bill over its lifetime. Hope that helps!

If you have a question for the Energy Guys, write them today! Questions can be submitted by mail by writing to: **Energy Guys, c/o FEC, P.O. Box 550, Clovis, NM, 88102.** You can also go on facebook and "like" our page! After liking our page, you can send us your question(s) through a comment or message. Don't forget to tune in every Saturday morning at 7:00 to KCLV 99.1 FM and on Sunday mornings at 10:00 to KCLV Talk 1240 AM to hear our radio show. For those outside the greater Clovis area, you can find our shows archived on our facebook page, "Morning Buzz with the Energy Guys" and listen to all of them in their entirety.



Jason

Thom

## Tailgate Special!

Charbroil Patio Bistro Electric Grill

**\$159**

**Save \$30!**

\*While supplies last



**ATTENTION: IRRIGATION CONSUMERS  
SUBJECT: IRRIGATION ANNUAL  
MINIMUM CHARGES**

In accordance with Farmers' Electric Cooperative's irrigation rate schedule, certain annual minimum charges apply to all irrigation accounts. Your original minimum charges were calculated through a contract with the Cooperative based on the cost of line extension to the irrigation load. Upon expiration of the contract, the horsepower on that account determines the annual minimum at the rate of \$20.00 per horsepower, but not less than \$110.00 for single-phase service, and not less than \$165.00 for three-phase service.

Under the irrigation rate schedule, consumers have one calendar year, (approximately December 20 through December 20 of the following year), in which to use the annual minimum charges. The December billing will reflect the remaining charges, if any.

If you have any questions regarding the annual minimum charges for your irrigation account(s), please contact the Cooperative's Billing Department at 575-762-4466 or 800-445-8541.

**Melrose Rotary – Fall Shoot**  
*Lofton Moon Rotary Club Fall Shoot*

**Sunday, October 23, 2016**

**Melrose, New Mexico**

**\*NEW EVENT\* Trap Shoot**

**.17 HMR and .22 Mag.**

**.22 Long Rifle**

**Muzzleloader (Novelty Shoot)**

**High Powered Rifle Events**

**Entry: \$2 per event!**

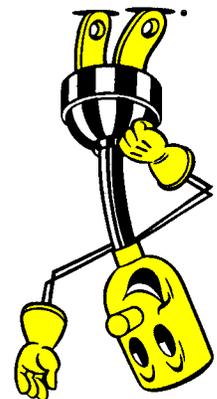
**CASH PRIZES for top  
shooters! Food concession  
will be available onsite**

For more information call:

Bill @ 575-762-9287 or Jim @ 575-760-5809 or  
Gordon @ 575-253-4519

*\*All net proceeds go to Rotary Club Scholarships!*

**“Owned By Those We Serve”**



OF NEW MEXICO  
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**FARMERS' ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.**

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