

We will see you there!

Annual Meeting is Oct. 3 in Duncan

Pull out your calendars, Cotton Electric members, and put a big red circle around Oct. 3. That's the day for the 2019 Annual Membership Meeting. On that Thursday, come to the Stephens County Fairgrounds at 2002 S. 13th Street in Duncan. Starting at 5:30 p.m., members can turn in registration slips – the top right corner of this page. Next, we'll treat you to a barbecue dinner and all the fixin's, courtesy of Catering by Finley of Oklahoma City.

There will be time to stroll around the venue and visit many points of interest. Cotton Electric employees will have booths set up for members to gather information about our vegetation management program, home energy evaluations and how to report a power outage. Be sure to stop by and see the co-op's new Chevy Bolt electric vehicle. Information about our new EV can be found on Page 5 and your questions can be answered at the meeting.

Co-op Connections partners and information will be on hand, too. All Cotton Electric employees will be present, so be sure to take advantage of this opportunity to put a face

with a voice on the telephone, to voice a concern or learn more about what the co-op does for its members. The co-op's Board of Trustees, composed of members representing nine districts, will be on hand, as well.

Our photo booth returns, with a new backdrop, complete with props to make it look as though you and your friends and family are in the basket of a utility truck. Attendees will also have the opportunity to pose as linemen by peeking their faces through linemen cut-outs.

A children's area will include kids' goodies, bounce houses and entertainment from Star Spangle the clown, LED Lucy and Solar Sam. Kids can also fill out registration forms for prize drawings at the end of the evening. There will be adult goodies, too. Each registered member will get a gift ticket to exchange for one gift bag containing a limited-edition cap and other surprises.

The business meeting required by the co-op's bylaws begins at 7 p.m. on the dot. Board President Ken Layn will call the meeting to order, and other board members will present reports. CEO Jennifer Meason will also address the membership.

When all cooperative issues have been discussed and the business meeting is adjourned, prize drawings will be held. Food, fun and prizes. What a great way to spend the evening. We hope to see you there!

The official annual report on the income and expenses of the cooperative is included in this issue of The Current. The report includes financial information pertaining to the Cotton Electric Charitable Foundation and a recap of gross receipts paid by the co-op.



September is National Preparedness month

By Anne Prince

It's your worst-case scenario. A major storm was predicted and, this time, the predictions were right. Many power lines are down, and your electricity may be out for several days. You are low on everything — food, pet supplies, toilet paper, batteries, diapers and your medication. Imagine how you would feel in this situation. While you can't predict which weather forecast will come true, you can plan ahead so when a severe weather event strikes, you have the tools and resources to effectively weather the storm. The Department of Homeland Security offers several resources to help you prepare for major weather events and natural disasters. Visit www.ready.gov/make-a-plan.

Preparedness Actions and Items

- Stock your pantry with a three-day supply of non-perishable food, such as canned goods, energy bars, peanut butter,

- powdered milk, instant coffee, water and other essentials (i.e., diapers and toiletries).
- Confirm that you have adequate sanitation and hygiene supplies including towelettes, soap and hand sanitizer.
- Ensure your First Aid kit is stocked with pain relievers, bandages and other medical essentials, and make sure your prescriptions are current.
- Set aside basic household items you will need, including flashlights, batteries, a manual can opener and portable, battery-powered radio or TV.
- Organize emergency supplies so they are together in an easily accessible location.

During a prolonged outage

In the event of an outage, turn off appliances, TVs, computers and other sensitive electronics. This will help avert damage when the power comes back on, and will also help prevent overloading

the circuits during power restoration. That said, do leave one light on so you will know when power is restored. If utilizing a small household generator, consider using LED holiday lights to illuminate a living area. A strand of 100 white lights draws little energy yet produces considerable light. Solar lights also work, if they can receive some sunlight during the day for charging. During thunderstorms, the American Red Cross recommends avoiding electrical equipment and land-based telephones. Use battery-powered TVs and radios instead. Keep away from windows. Listen to local news or NOAA Weather Radio for emergency updates, or check Cotton Electric's Facebook page for restoration updates. After the storm, avoid downed power lines and walking through flooded areas where power lines could be submerged. Allow ample room for utility crews to safely perform their jobs.

Official Registration Card

2019 Annual Meeting of Cotton Electric Cooperative, Inc. Oct. 3 at the Stephens County Fairgrounds in Duncan

Please present this card at the registration booth. Registration begins at 5:30 p.m. This registration card entitles the holder to one gift ticket per membership. Only connected members are eligible for prizes, and members must be present to win.

WHEN THE LIGHTS GO OUT

1. Ensure your power is truly off by checking fuses or circuit breakers.
2. If you have no power at all, call Cotton Electric at 580-875-3351 or 800-522-3520.
3. Have your name, location, account number and any helpful information ready to give to our dispatcher.

Learn more ways to report an outage on Page 3.

Power in planning

Advance planning for severe storms or other emergencies can reduce stress and anxiety caused by the weather event and can lessen the impact of the storm's effects. Sign up for NOAA emergency alerts and warnings and follow us on Facebook and Twitter to stay abreast of restoration efforts and other important co-op news and information. Act today, because there is power in planning.

Power Cost Adjustment Calculated

The power cost adjustment now being applied to bills mailed after Sept. 1, 2019, is (\$0.00801) per kWh.

On a member's average bill of 1250 kilowatt hours (kWh), this will amount to a credit of \$10.01 on the September bill.

August 2019 Temperature Extremes

Day	High	Low	Avg.	Day	High	Low	Avg.
1	103	75	89	16	106	74	90
2	104	77	91	17	107	70	89
3	94	77	86	18	103	72	88
4	97	74	86	19	104	77	91
5	99	72	86	20	104	74	89
6	103	76	90	21	103	72	88
7	105	79	92	22	98	73	86
8	101	79	90	23	90	72	84
9	101	79	90	24	93	71	82
10	107	76	92	25	97	73	85
11	107	75	91	26	107	76	92
12	107	74	91	27	84	67	76
13	97	76	87	28	90	71	81
14	99	74	87	29	99	74	87
15	100	71	86	30	82	67	75
				31	89	67	78

Source: srh.noaa.gov/out/
Average Daily High: 99 Average Daily Low: 74

Did You Know?

The SmartHub app provides access to your Cotton Electric account via your mobile device. Manage payments, notify member services of issues and check your power use all at the touch of a button. The next issue of The Current should arrive in mailboxes on Oct. 15, 2019.

Contact Us

Do you have a story idea for The Current or do you need to place an ad? If so, let us know. We can be reached at 580-875-3351 or by email at info@cottonelectric.com. You can also drop us a line at Cotton Electric Current, 226 N. Broadway, Walters, OK 73572.

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More news at cottonelectric.com

From the CEO

Members benefit at Annual Meeting

Most of us lead busy lives. We find ourselves multitasking, constantly checking phones and email to keep up with the demands of modern life. Thanks to technology, we can accomplish many tasks electronically and remotely to be more efficient. And with so many pressing obligations, we like to protect our “spare” time. Invitations to attend in-person meetings and gatherings are weighed carefully as we decide whether our time and effort to attend is beneficial. The answer to the question, “What’s in it for me?” must be compelling. You may think attending Cotton Electric’s annual meeting would be easy to lump into the “No benefit to me” category. However, I’d ask you to think again.

Cotton Electric exists to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy to its consumer-members (that’s you!).



Jennifer Meason, CEO

Equally important is our mission to enrich the lives of all members and to serve the long-term interests of our local communities. This is where you can help.

As a member of the community, you have a perspective that is valuable — and we invite you to share it with the co-op. At the annual meeting, co-op leaders will update the membership and discuss the financial health and priorities for the coming years. The employees of the Cooperative will also be in attendance, giving you the opportunity to share your thoughts and concerns in person.

Cotton Electric is one of the few local organizations that is uniquely positioned to bring together all members of the community. It is worth noting that the health of the co-op and the well-being of the community are closely intertwined.

Perhaps you may feel that you have nothing to add to the discussion, so there is no need to attend the annual meeting. However, every energy bill you pay to the co-op helps ensure better service and reliability for

the whole community. Your dollars are reinvested locally into improvements that impact the reliability and affordability of your energy, and Cotton Electric wants to hear from you to better inform our decisions as we plan for the future.

While Cotton Electric provides convenient electronic options for bill-paying and communication, there are times when there is no substitute for in-person engagement. When members of our community come together for a common purpose, we improve the quality of life for all in our corner of the world.

If you’ve never attended our annual meeting, or if it’s been a while, please stop by. We’ll have a delicious barbecue meal, entertainment for the kids, and great door prizes. I hope you’ll mark your calendar for the Annual Meeting on Oct. 3 at the Stephens County Fairgrounds in Duncan. Dinner will be served beginning at 5:30 p.m., and we’ll start the business meeting promptly at 7 p.m.

Our co-op family looks forward to visiting with you!

PROUD 5-STAR ELECTRIC CO-OP



Voter Registration Day

is Sept. 24

Marketing department welcomes new employee

By Danielle Quickle

We are excited to welcome the newest addition to the co-op Marketing Department, Kaila Williams.

Kaila joined Cotton Electric’s team as the new Marketing Representative in August. She grew up west of Duncan on co-op lines and is now looking forward to the opportunity to experience the cooperative from the business side.

“I am excited to learn new things and engage with our members,” she said. “I hope to help market the co-op to not only the members, but our entire community.”

She attended Central High High School and is a recent graduate of Oklahoma State University where she earned a degree in Agricultural Communications.

Her ag background and experience working with a variety of organizations, including ESPN, NCAA and American Junior Shorthorn Association, to name a few, brings a fresh perspective to the department.

“My diversity is something that I think will benefit me in this role,” Kaila said. “There are a variety of things I am passionate about and enjoy doing. So, I have learned how to adapt to new environments.”

As Marketing Representative, Kaila will assist advertisers with their graphic design and placement in The Current. She will also play a role in the orga-



nization of Youth Tour and Energy Camp and will have a hand in keeping up with The Current classifieds. She is currently working on revamping the Co-op Connections program. See a list of local participants on Page 13.

Kaila will continue to learn and grow in the co-op industry so she can relay information to members to the best of her ability, the fifth of the seven co-op principles. We look forward to seeing Kaila excel in her new position as she works for the benefit of the co-op membership.

Members can expect to see Kaila out in the community as a friendly face from Cotton Electric. If you have not had the chance to meet her, be sure to stop by the Marketing booth at our Annual Meeting on Oct. 3 and welcome her to our co-op family.



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Cookware Tip: Copper-bottomed pans heat faster on the stove. In the oven, ceramic and glass dishes are better than metal. With ceramic and glass dishes, you can turn the oven down about 25 degrees, and your meal will cook just as quickly.

Source: energy.gov

TheCurrent

Published Monthly at Walters, Oklahoma
By Cotton Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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Karen Kaley.....Marketing & Communications
Danielle Quickle Editor
Jennifer Kriz.....Display Advertising
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“Cotton Electric Current” (USPS #134-020)
is published monthly by: Cotton Electric Co-op,

226 North Broadway, Walters, OK 73572
Periodicals Postage paid at
Wichita Falls, Texas 76307-9998
Postmaster Send #3579
To The Cotton Current
226 North Broadway
Walters, OK 73572

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COTTON
ELECTRIC CO-OP

Mission Statement
Our mission is to be the leader in providing the most reliable and innovative electric system, with affordable rates, through the positive, enthusiastic and professional use of its resources and people.

July 2019 Operating Stats			
	2019	2018	
Total Amount Billed/Accrued	\$6,364,944	\$6,119,567	
Cost of Purchased Power	3,775,772	4,013,384	
Taxes	104,717	120,917	
Total Operating Expense Per Mile	1,006	1,109	
Average Farm and Residential Bill	189	179	
Average Farm and Residential kWh	1,577	1,707	
Total Meters Billed (farm, residential)	18,488	18,420	
Miles Energized	5,198	5,176	
Density Per Mile	3.56	3.56	
New Service Connects YTD	190	168	
Services Retired	64	57	

KEEP US UPDATED

If your address or contact information has been changed due to E911 or for any other reason, please let us know.

Information can be sent in the mail or be dropped off at Cotton Electric, 226 N. Broadway, Walters, OK 73572 or at the Duncan office, 1101 W. Oak.

Information can be emailed to info@cottonelectric.com or by phone by calling 580-875-3351.

Name : _____

Account #: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

VM continues prep for pole changeout

Cotton Electric’s Vegetation Management (VM) program is a proactive effort to ensure quality power delivery. Aggressive and preventive vegetation management is a good value to the co-op’s members from a service and an economic perspective. Keeping trees away from power lines is also a matter of safety.

Scott Crew, vegetation management coordinator for Cotton Electric, oversees an in-house crew and several contract crews in the year-round effort to clear trees and prevent regrowth.

He said all tree-clearing crews make every effort to contact land and home owners in person as they move into an area. In some cases, they will leave bright-colored door hangers either at the house or tied to a gate post.

“Please call the number on the hanger or call me at 580-875-4224. Plan to leave a message,” he said, noting that he is likely to be out on the job.

After trees are cleared, crews return to the area at regularly scheduled intervals to apply a specially formulated herbicide that will prevent tree growth while protecting grasses. Spraying is done only during the growing season.

Crews have completed the clearing of vegetation along the north Hulen circuit, allowing work in other areas in Cotton Electric’s service territory to be attended to.

During the third quarter of the year, Northeast Rural Services (NRS) will have two crews working in the east Walters circuit of Cotton Electric’s service territory in preparation for contractors coming to remove bad poles.

They will be prioritizing the clearing of vegetation to improve power quality and make room for pole changeouts.

As always, Cotton’s vegetation management crews will work with district linemen on VM clearing where needed throughout the service area.

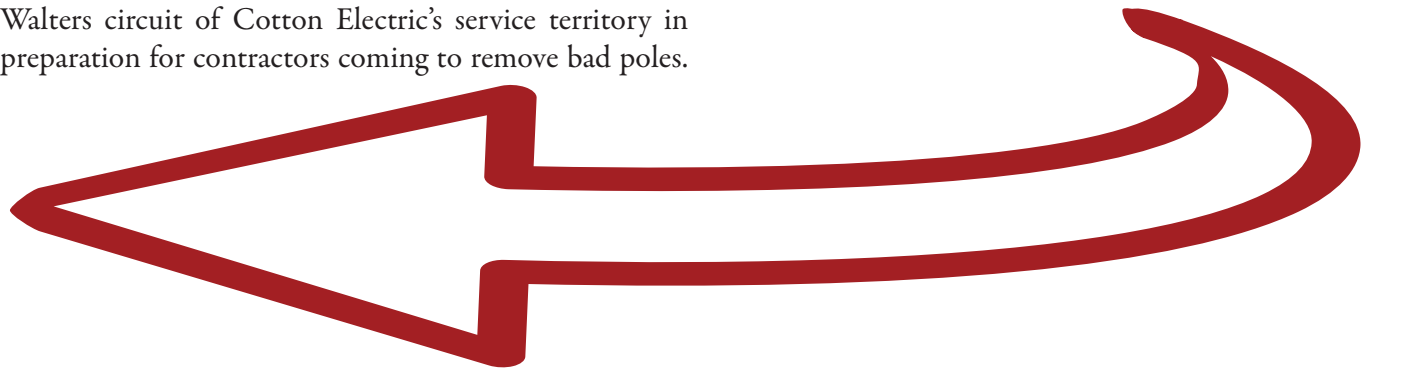
Scott Crew said his crews are always looking for land and home owners in need of free untreated wood chips. Because these chips are untreated, it is not recommended to use them next to a structure.

Landowners looking for material to help with erosion problems may want to contact the co-op, too. With the new skid steer, the VM crew can deliver stumps and other debris too large to chip or mulch.

Chips and large debris will be delivered to members nearest the day’s work location. Work crews will deliver wood chips only to members they can reach by phone and whose location is nearest the day’s work. There is no guarantee a member will receive wood chips at any particular time.

Leave a message at 580-875-4224 to have your name added to the list of members willing to take wood chips.

Help our VM department out and make sure the co-op has your up-to-date contact information on file. This information is needed to contact members to let them know when we will be on their property.



SmartHub simplifies Cotton Electric member accounts

Life can be fast and hectic, but it doesn’t always have to be complicated. Keeping up with your Cotton Electric account shouldn’t be a complex task, and with SmartHub, it won’t be.

Some members may have heard of SmartHub but are unfamiliar with its benefits. SmartHub can help members take control of their account so they can spend less time worrying about their electric bill and more time focusing on other responsibilities.

SmartHub has several features, including being able to pay a bill, viewing energy consumption, contacting Member Services (see spotlight on Page 10) and getting the latest co-op news.

Upon login, members have access to their billing history. They can view their current bill or previous ones to compare payments throughout the years.



Members are also able to view their energy consumption. SmartHub shows how member’s energy use is trending over time, allowing members to take steps toward lowering their bill.

Making payments through SmartHub is fast and easy. The first time a member submits a payment, he or she is able to securely store payment information for future transactions, allowing for easy payment on future bills.

SmartHub alerts account holders of important co-op notices. Members are able to select how they wish to be notified, options include emails and text messaging. Energy use thresholds can be set that notify

members when they are using more energy than they would like and help them keep bills as low as possible.

Reporting a service issue is quick and easy from SmartHub. Co-op phone lines can get busy during large outages. Using SmartHub to report an outage foregoes waiting on the line to talk to our dispatcher and immediately alerts the co-op that a member is without power. Contacting the co-op’s Member Services department can also be done through SmartHub should members have any questions they need answered.

Haven’t used SmartHub yet? Access it through CottonElectric.com or by downloading the SmartHub app on your mobile device through the App Store or Google Play.

Plenty of things in life are complicated, don’t let managing your Cotton Electric account be one of them.

Source: NISC Community





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Community Spotlight

If you would like your community event listed in the October issue, please submit information by Oct. 2 by calling 580-875-3351 or send an email to TheCurrent@CottonElectric.com.

Geronimo celebrates 113 years

Geronimo’s annual birthday celebration and bull riding classic is set for Sept. 20-21.

The celebration kicks off with a parade themed “Hometown Heroes” at 6 p.m. on Friday. There will be a benefit brisket dinner following the parade, put on by the Geronimo Fire Department. Saturday’s events will start at 7:30 a.m. with a breakfast at the firehouse.

Throughout the weekend, there will be live music, dancing, food, vendors, games, fireworks and rodeo events. For more information, contact the Geronimo Fire Department.

Touch-A-Truck set for Sept. 21

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) Stephens County and Duncan Chamber of Commerce present Touch-A-Truck on Sept. 21 at 2845 W. Elk Ave. in Duncan.

This family-friendly event will allow participants to turn their imagination into real life. For \$5, this interactive outdoor adventure allows kids to climb, explore and discover their favorite big trucks and vehicles.

A sensory friendly hour will begin at 9 a.m. and then the event is open to the public starting at 10:30 a.m. For more information, visit the Touch-A-Truck Facebook page.

International Fest is Sept. 27-29

Elmer Thomas Park is the site of the annual International Festival to be held Sept. 27-29.

There is no admission or parking fee for this family-oriented extravaganza of fun, food, children’s games and activities, demonstration artists and multicultural entertainment.

Three days of concerts and entertainment kick off with a Parade of Nations beginning at 5:45 p.m. Friday, followed by a naturalization ceremony. Activities will continue until 10 p.m., then resume from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Find detailed information at the International Festival page on Facebook.

CU screens ‘Arsenic and Old Lace’

Magic Lantern Film Society of Cameron University screens DVD presentations of classic films each month in the CETES Conference Center, Room A. Most screenings begin at 7:30 p.m.

The Oct. 4 offering will be “Arsenic and Old Lace,” a 1944 mystery film directed by Frank Capra.

Writer and notorious marriage detractor Mortimer Brewster falls for girl-next-door Elaine Harper, and they tie the knot on Halloween. When the newlyweds return to their respective family homes to deliver the news, Brewster finds a corpse hidden in a window seat.

With his eccentric aunts, disturbed uncle and homicidal brother, he starts to realize that his family is even crazier than he thought.

The cast includes Cary Grant, Priscilla Lane and John Alexander. There is no admission charge, but donations are accepted. For information about the society, or to see a schedule and synopsis of films, visit Cameron.edu/magiclantern.

CTHC hosts writing workshop

The Chisholm Trail Heritage Center in Duncan is hosting a free writing workshop led by Oklahoma author Beth Robinson, beginning at 1:30 p.m. on Oct. 6.

Participants are advised to arrive at 1:15 p.m., 15 minutes before the center opens. Robinson, an award-winning writer, will create engaging dialogue and offer writing exercises during the two-hour workshop.

Participants will have a hands-on opportunity to explore the museum in at least one of the exercises.

The workshop is free for all ages. Details and information can be found on CTHC’s Facebook page under events or at OnTheChisholmTrail.com.

Medicine Park car show is Oct. 19

Start your engines for Medicine Park’s 12th annual Street Rod, Muscle Car and Classic Car Show from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 19.

Car enthusiasts will enjoy a variety of vehicles at the family-friendly event. Trophies for first through third in each class are among the honors to be awarded, and a combined \$1,500 will be given to the Best of Show Car and Best of Show Truck.

Same-day registration is \$30 and will be open from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at The Old Plantation.

Motorcycles are also qualified to compete. Awards and prizes will be given at 5 p.m.

This event is free to the public. Questions can be answered by emailing info@theoldplantationrestaurant.com.

Car show set for Oct. 19 in Cache

Cache OcTURBOfest Car Show will be Oct. 19 on the Cache School campus. Registration in nine classes ranging from classic to people’s choice begins at 8:30 a.m. with the show beginning at 10 a.m.

Awards will be given at 3 p.m. All proceeds will go to benefit the Cache Area Chamber of Commerce. For information, call Jaysen at 580-483-5166.

Annual Bark in the Park in Duncan

For the 14th year, four-legged fur-bearing critters will take over Duncan’s Fuqua Park during Bark in the Park from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 26.

This tail-waggin’ celebration is open to all pets, their owners and spectators. The Stephens County Humane Society and Friends of the Humane Society plan fun, pet and family-friendly activities that include a number of contests, food trucks, vendors and games.

Not only does Bark in the Park raise awareness for the Humane Society, all proceeds go toward paying for daily operations at the shelter.

Several dogs will be on site available for adoption. For questions or sponsorship information, call Patti Whitaker at 580-641-0667.

CTHC poetry contest begins Nov. 1

The Chisholm Trail Heritage Center hosts its second-annual Chisholm Trail Cowboy Youth Poetry Contest for students in Pre-K through 12th grade.

Students must write and submit a cowboy poem of their own original work. Poems must be a minimum of eight lines and a maximum of two pages. Only one entry is allowed per student.

Entries should be emailed, hand-delivered or mailed by Nov. 1 to 1000 Chisholm Trail Parkway in Duncan 73533 or to Toni@OnTheChisholmTrail.com.

There is no entry fee. A panel of experienced judges will determine the winners, and cash prizes will be awarded to the top five poems in four categories.

For information, contact Toni Hopper or Leah Mulkey at 580-252-6692.

More Community Spotlight on Page 6

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



Avery knows that any proper birthday celebration requires a blue cupcake, with extra sprinkles! She is the granddaughter of Cotton Electric members Jeff and Stacey Goode. Happy 2nd birthday, Avery! Photo is the product of Redriver Creations.

Enter your “best shot” in our Photo of the Month contest. Theme for October is Friday Night Lights. Entries can be emailed to TheCurrent@CottonElectric.com or mailed to The Current, 226 N. Broadway, Walters, OK 73572. Winners will receive a Cotton Electric prize package of CEC goodies.

CTHC exhibit features works by Lemons

“A Texas State of Mind,” an exhibit featuring the art of Larry G. Lemons of Nocona, Texas, continues through Sept. 22 at the Chisholm Trail Heritage Center in Duncan.

His paintings are Texas bold and feature Texas icons: armadillos, the Lone Star, rusty pickup trucks, horned toads and livestock skulls. His art is fun, reflecting his own personality.

The Heritage Center, at 1000 Chisholm Trail Parkway, is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and from 1 to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

Cotton Electric members can get \$1 off the admission price by showing their Co-op Connections Card.

WE ALL USE ENERGY DIFFERENTLY



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October		November		December	
Ad Sales	Sept. 21	Ad Sales	Nov. 1	Ad Sales	Nov. 29
Classified	Oct. 2	Classified	Nov. 6	Classified	Dec. 4
Publish Date	Oct. 15	Publish Date	Nov. 18	Publish Date	Dec. 16

Cooperative shares EV experience with members

According to a 2019 survey conducted by Consumer Reports, 63 percent of prospective car buyers in America are interested in electric vehicles (EV). With more of our membership considering the purchase of an EV, being able to give accurate, first-hand feedback on EV ownership is important to the co-op.

This, along with increased sales of EVs across Oklahoma and industry forecast predicting a dramatic increase in the number of EVs on the road in the future, is why we added a 2019 Chevy Bolt EV to our cooperative fleet. We would like to share our learning experience as we have passed the half-year mark as EV owners.

Upon extensive research, we discovered that the Bolt was the top choice to best meet the cooperative's needs. This research included comparing battery range, or estimated mileage, versus the cost of a variety of EVs. Among the models available in our state, the Bolt proved to have the best mileage of range per dollar, even when compared to the Tesla Model S.

With an estimated range of 238 miles, we felt the Bolt would meet our day-to-day driving needs as a fleet asset. Board approval prompted the purchase of the Bolt in November of 2018 and it arrived at the co-op four months later.

Since the arrival of the vehicle, co-op employees have driven roughly 4,500 miles at a cost of only \$119 worth of electricity. Traveling the same distance in a Honda Civic, with an estimated 42 miles per gallon (MPG), would cost more than \$260 in fuel.

Of all the benefits to owning an EV, savings on fuel cost is the most notable. Estimated annual fuel savings range from \$800-\$2,000. This wide range is due to the varying price of electricity and fuel across the nation. The co-op's Bolt has averaged around 3.4 miles per kilowatt-hour (kWh). The residential cost per kWh is approximately \$0.09, meaning EV drivers could travel 100 miles for about \$2.65. This same distance would cost a Civic driver almost \$6 in fuel.

Another benefit that stands out is the lack of need for EV maintenance. On average, a gasoline-powered vehicle has more than 2,000 moving parts, whereas an EV has an average of 20. Decreasing the amount of moving parts calls for less routine maintenance and lowers the chance of mechanical failure.

The level of performance by the EV has been a pleasant surprise to employees who have gotten behind the wheel. The permanent magnetic drive motor



Heath Morgan,
Energy Efficiency
Coordinator

is powered by a 60-kWh lithium-ion battery, producing 200 horse-power and a torque of 266 foot-pounds. The torque from the electric motor is instant, reaching a top-speed of 91 miles per hour (MPH) and accelerating from 0-60 MPH in less than 7 seconds.

Along with multiple benefits, there are a number of concerns that still surround the purchase of an EV. The initial investment of an EV is considerably higher than that of their internal combustion competitors.

// Co-op employees have driven roughly 4,500 miles at a cost of \$119 worth of electricity. //

The Chevy Bolt EV has a listed manufacturer-suggested retail price (MSRP) of \$36,620-\$42,495, a more than \$17,000 difference compared to the Honda Civic, which starts at \$19,000 MSRP. Federal tax credits have been put in place to help offset some of this initial cost. Depending on the size of the battery in the vehicle, buyers could receive a rebate for as much as \$7,500. A \$2,500 state tax credit has been proposed, but not yet approved.

Charging equipment is another thing to consider in the initial cost. Factory Level One charging equipment is included with the purchase of an EV and can take up to 68

hours to fully recharge the vehicle. Level Two chargers are around four times faster than the Level One, bringing charging times down to around 8-9 hours for a complete charge. The cost of chargers depends on equipment speed and features. Most Level Two chargers can be purchased and installed for less than \$1,500.

Range limitations, or "range anxiety," is another hurdle that EV manufactures are addressing. Currently, thoughtful considerations are required when planning road trips that exceed the estimated range of an EV. Because a majority of available charging sites are located around Oklahoma City and Tulsa areas, the fastest route may have to be recalculated to ensure access to a charging station.

A statewide project is under way that will be adding 150 new charging sites across the state by the end of 2019. Upon completion of this project, there will be an estimated 75 miles between any two charging sites along Oklahoma highways. Shortening the distance to the nearest charging station will help ease any range anxiety.

In November of 2018, more than 1 million EVs were on U.S. roads and more than 5.5 million on roads worldwide. Lowering prices of battery technology and overall vehicle cost, along with a growing selection of EV models, has led to a dramatic increase in sales. There were only 691 EVs sold in Oklahoma in 2017. Last year, that number rose to 2,683, increasing sales by more than 280 percent.

The rise in sales, low electrical cost and growing charging infrastructure were driving factors in Oklahoma being voted as the number one most EV-friendly state by MyEV.com. All of these factors indicate that sales will continue to increase throughout our state.

So, if you are considering the purchase of an EV in the future, know that Cotton Electric is here to assist you in any way we can. We are prepared to make appearances at any school, private group or organization to give an educational presentation about EVs or a number of topics related to the co-op. If you, or an organization you know of, would be interested in an educational presentation, please call co-op headquarters at 580-875-3351.



Oklahoma voted #1 EV-friendly state

CO-OP OFFERS PRESENTATIONS

Cotton Electric is now offering educational presentations to schools, organizations or private groups. Presentations are given over EVs, energy efficiency, safety and a number of other topics related to the co-op. If your school or group would be interested in booking a FREE educational presentation, please call co-op headquarters at 580-875-3351.

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Community Spotlight

Nutrition Center open weekdays

Marlow Nutrition Center is open to the public from 11 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday at Redbud park in Marlow. Nutritious meals are served on site or as carry-out, \$2 for guests 60 years old and older or \$5.85 for guests younger than 60 years. To place carry-out orders or for further details, contact Cheris at 580-658-5773.

Weekly kids’ activities in Central High

Central High presents Story Time from 10-10:30 a.m. every Wednesday while school is in session at the high school library. Participants will read a story, sing songs and do an activity. Children who have not yet started school are welcome if accompanied by a parent or caregiver. For more information, call 580-685-2929, Ext. 6.

Chapter of the Blind meets monthly

Duncan Chapter of the Blind meets at 1:30 p.m. on the third Saturday of each month at the Stephens County Historical Museum, 1402 W. Beech Ave. This is an opportunity for those who are visually impaired or blind and their caregivers to learn about the availability of services and equipment such as white cane training and large lighted magnifiers. The group also provides information about free access to an extensive library of audio books. For information about the group or to arrange free transportation to the monthly meeting, call 580-786-8041 or 736-8454.

Lawton Farmers Market open weekly

Lawton Farmers Market is open from 8 a.m. to noon every Wednesday and Saturday from April through October at the Comanche County Fairgrounds, 920 SW Sheridan Road. In addition to local seasonal produce, expect to see specialty foods such as jams, jellies, salsas, baked goods, wine, and freshly roasted coffee beans, as well as hand-made soap, herbs, plants, eggs, beef and an assortment of handcrafted items and food concessionaires. For information, visit Lawton Farmers Market on Facebook.

Weekly kids’ activities in Central High

Central High presents Story Time from 10-10:30 a.m. every Wednesday while school is in session at the high school library. Participants will read a story, sing songs and do an activity. Children who have not yet started school are welcome if accompanied by a parent or caregiver. For more information, call 580-685-2929, Ext. 6.

Food pantry opens twice monthly

Walters Community Food Pantry is open from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month. The pantry is in the old City Hall, 131 1/2 W. California Street. Pantry organizers try to provide a two-week supply of basic staples to anyone with identification. For information, call Roger Noland at 580-591-6826.

Backups recover lost or damaged data

If you use a computer or mobile device long enough, something will eventually go wrong. You may accidentally delete the wrong files, have a hardware failure, or lose a device. Even worse, malware, such as ransomware, may wipe your files and/or hold them captive. At times like these, backups are often the only way you can rebuild your digital life.

What, When, and How

Backups are copies of your information stored somewhere other than on your computer or mobile device. When you lose valuable data, you can recover your data from backups. The first step is deciding what you want to back up: specific data that is important to you or everything, including your entire operating system. Many backup solutions are configured by default to use the first approach. They back up the most commonly used folders. If you are not sure what to back up or want to be extra careful, back up everything. Second, decide how frequently to back up. Built-in backup programs, such as Apple’s Time Machine or Windows Backup and Restore, allow you to create an automatic “set it and forget it” schedule. Common options include hourly, daily, weekly, etc. Other solutions offer “continuous protection” in which new or altered files back up immediately each time you save a document. At a minimum, we recommend automated daily backups of critical files. Finally, decide how you are going to back up. There are two ways: locally or Cloud-based. Local backups rely upon devices you control, such as external USB drives or Wi-Fi accessible network devices. The advantage of local backups is that they enable you to back up and recover large amounts of data quickly. The disadvantage is if you become infected with malware, such as Ransomware, it is possible for the infection to spread to your backups. Also, if there’s a fire, theft, or other disaster, it can result in you losing not only your computer, but the backups, as well. If you use external devices for backups, store a copy off-site in a secure location and make sure your backups are properly labeled. Cloud-based solutions are online services that store your files on the Internet. Typically, you install an ap-



plication on your computer. The application then automatically backs your files either on a schedule or as you modify them. An advantage of Cloud solutions is their simplicity; backups are often automatic, and you can usually access your files from anywhere. Also, since your data resides in the Cloud, home disasters, such as fire or theft, will not affect your backup. Finally, Cloud backups can help you recover from malware infections such as Ransomware. The disadvantage is your ability to back up and restore depends on how much data you have backed up and the speed of your network. Not sure if you want to use local or Cloud-based for backups? Be extra safe and use both. With mobile devices, most of your data is already stored in the Cloud. However, your mobile app configurations, recent photos, and system preferences may not be. By backing up your mobile device, not only do you preserve this information, but it is easier to transfer your data when you upgrade to a new device.

Key Points

- Backing up your data is only half the battle. You must also be sure that you can recover it. Test periodically that your backups are working by retrieving and opening a file.
 - If you rebuild a system from a backup, be sure you reapply the latest security patches and updates before using it again.
 - If you are using a Cloud solution, select one that is easy for you to use and research the security options. For example, do they support two-step verification to secure your online account?
- Backups are a simple and low-cost way to protect your digital life.

Source: SANS Awareness



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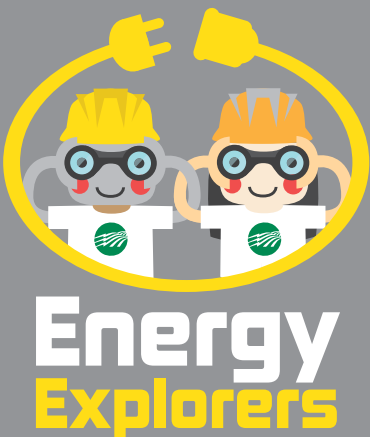
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Fun By The Numbers

Level: Beginner

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Editor's Note:
For 2019 we will be alternating between crossword and sudoku puzzles to challenge the mind differently each month. The crossword puzzle will be back in October. For now, test your skills with this sudoku.

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FAMILY FEATURES

Whether you prefer watching your favorite teams in-person or on TV, tailgate season means it's time to break out your party's favorite foods from appetizers and snacks to all-out meals.

Go long for a touchdown-worthy tailgate or settle in for game day on the couch with these recipes for a bold burger, sweet-and-spicy wings and creamy coleslaw. For an appetizing pregame warmup, try this assortment of nacho toppings to give your whole party something to cheer about.

Find more recipes to amp up your tailgate atmosphere at Culinary.net.

Homemade Nachos Worth the Hype

Perfect for pairing with game day dishes of nearly any variety, nachos allow a special amount of personalization for guests of all ages and taste preferences. Along with tortilla chips, of course, try nibbling on these topping options throughout your party:

- Shredded cheese
- Melted nacho cheese
- Sour cream
- Guacamole
- Salsa
- Black olives
- Shredded meat
- Sliced peppers
- Diced tomatoes
- Corn
- Beans



Photo courtesy of Getty Images

Take Down a Tantalizing Tailgate



Crunch into Coleslaw

Appetizers, main courses and snacks may dominate many tailgate parties, whether at home or the stadium, but don't forget to incorporate sides that can accompany all the flavors of your festivities.

This Honey-Dill Coleslaw, for example, makes for a complementary dish to just about any protein from burgers to wings and beyond. Plus, with only a few simple ingredients, it's an easy side to whip up yourself or enlist help from an eager guest.

Find more sweet side recipes at honey.com.

Honey-Dill Coleslaw

Recipe courtesy of the National Honey Board
Servings: 4

- 1/4 cup honey
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 1/2 teaspoon dried dill weed
- 1 package (16 ounces) coleslaw mix
- 1/4 cup thinly sliced onion
- salt, to taste
- pepper, to taste

In small bowl, combine honey, sour cream and dill.

In large bowl, toss coleslaw mix with onion and honey-sour cream mixture. Season with salt and pepper, to taste. Serve immediately.

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A Flavorful, Exotic Spin

No tailgate is complete without a game day staple: burgers. For a twist on tradition, try serving a different style of beef to give guests a new take on an all-time favorite.

This Grass-Fed Wagyu Burger with Red Radish Chili Pickles uses First Light 100% grass-fed Wagyu beef from New Zealand, home to some of the world’s most natural tasting beef and lamb. With cattle allowed to roam and graze freely over lush green hills and pastures all day, every day, the result is a tender, flavorful meat that tastes as nature intended.

Remember to cook the patties quickly over high heat to help retain juiciness, tenderness and flavor. With a touch of chili pepper in the pickles, you can add just enough spice with a sweet kick.

Find more recipes for game day gatherings at [beefandlambnz.com](#).

- Grass-Fed Wagyu Burger with Red Radish Chili Pickles**
- Red Radish Chili Pickles:**
- 2 tablespoons white wine vinegar
 - 2 tablespoons water
 - 1/2 teaspoon sugar
 - 2 tablespoons sliced fresh red chili peppers



- 1/2 cup sliced red radish
- Wagyu Burgers:**
- 1 1/3 pounds First Light New Zealand Grass-Fed Wagyu
- Grind**
- salt, to taste
 - pepper, to taste
 - 1 teaspoon grainy mustard (optional)
 - 2 tablespoons rice bran oil
 - 4 hamburger buns
 - 2 tablespoons mayonnaise
 - 4 lettuce leaves
 - 2 vine-ripened tomatoes, sliced
 - 2 tablespoons onion jam
- To make Red Radish Chili Pickles: In small saucepan, heat vinegar, water and sugar. Add chili and radish; remove from heat.
- To make Wagyu Burgers: Season Wagyu grind with salt and pepper, to taste. Mix in mustard, if desired. Form into four patties. Lightly brush both sides of burgers with oil. In frying pan, sear burgers over high heat then reduce heat to medium and cook until well caramelized. Flip and repeat process on other side.
- In frying pan, lightly toast burger buns.
- Spread mayonnaise on buns; top with lettuce, tomato and burger.
- Spread spoonful onion jam on each burger then finish with Red Radish Chili Pickles.



A Sweet-Hot Handheld

Ditch the plates and dive right into a sweet and spicy snack perfect for the whole party with these Honey-Sriracha Grilled Wings.

To help simplify prep, try grilling ahead of time and keep in the oven until guests arrive. Or, if you’re tailgating in style at the stadium, toss into a pan and cover with foil to keep them warm until it’s time for a bite.

Visit [honey.com](#) to find more tailgating recipes.

- Honey Sriracha Grilled Wings**
- Recipe courtesy of the National Honey Board
- Servings: 8

- 4 pounds fresh chicken wings
- water**
- 3 cups rice wine vinegar
 - 1/4 cup Sriracha sauce
 - 2 tablespoons salt
 - 2 cups honey, divided
- Heat grill to 225-240 F.
- In large bowl, rinse wings with cool water. Add rice wine vinegar, Sriracha, salt and 1 cup honey. Fold to incorporate all ingredients and coat wings evenly.
- Place wings on grill, cover with lid and cook 12-14 minutes before turning once and cooking additional 15-18 minutes.
- Open lid and turn wings. Brush remaining honey on wings. Cook 5-8 minutes, remove from heat and serve.

Recent study associates soda with mortality

A new study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association Internal Medicine in September of 2019 found an association between soda and mortality in people living in 10 different European countries between 1992 and 2001.

Immediately after publication, headlines in the U.S. began to twist this association into “soda causes death for everyone, whether it has sugar or not.” While it’s probably a good idea to limit the amount of soda you drink, regardless of sugar content, this study did not prove that drinking a certain amount of soda causes death. It found an association between soda and mortality in a specific group of people during a specific time period.

In the study, authors admit that the association could be attributed to other factors, apart from soda, that they were not able to control for in this specific study. When reading headlines that indicate a food “causes” something, you



Kim Bandelier, MPH, RD, LD

Food For THOUGHT

should immediately be skeptical. The way to prove causation is to do a randomized experiment, often referred to as a randomized controlled trial, where a group of humans or animals are randomly assigned to a treatment group and a non-treatment group. The study

published this month involved researchers looking back in time at data collected to see if there were differences in people who reported drinking soda versus those who reported not drinking soda, or drinking less.

This study type can only provide insight into associations and cannot prove that one thing causes another.

Science that points to associations is still important. For years, there was merely an “association” between tobacco and cancer. It took many additional studies looking at the association of tobacco and cancer in different groups of people, using different statistical processes to control for other possible factors contributing to cancer, plus actual randomized controlled trials in animals to create a preponderance of evidence to determine cause.

And even still, some people who smoke never get cancer. But public health organizations agree that there is enough evidence to support that tobacco can cause

cancer and that tobacco products should be controlled.

We are still a long way from enough evidence to label soda as deadly, however, soda is not the best choice for daily consumption.

Sugar-sweetened soda adds empty calories to your diet, meaning it only provides energy and does not add any fiber, vitamins, minerals, or other nutrients that your body benefits from.

Diet soda does not add calories, but there are questions about the effects of artificial sweeteners on your body’s metabolism that might lead to poor health outcomes.

Water, unsweet tea of all types and black coffee remain the best beverage options. If you like soda, reserve it for an occasional treat. If there is ever enough compelling evidence that sodas, or any food, pose a risk to public safety, government health organizations will use their authority to protect the public.

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Preview: Fri., Oct. 4 & 11, 1pm-6pm

Directions: From Hwy 81 & Hwy 29 go 12 miles East, turn South and go ½ mile.

Scroggins Auction Service has been commissioned to offer at Public Auction the Living Estate of Mr. Gary Cook.

To view home prior to auction contact: Parker Scroggins 580-656-4416

For photos log onto [www.auctionzip.com](#), Enter Auctioneer ID# 17788

Real Estate Consists of: Very nice 3400 sq. ft. brick home on 20 acres with 2 ponds, New roof, 3 bedrooms, Office/ 4th bedroom, Upstairs, 2 1/2 baths, Fireplace, Jacuzzi tub in main bath, Large utility room, Well water, 2 car garage, 2 car carport, 30x40 shop, Sunroom, Screened back porch, 42' Inground pool w/ deck & pool house, CHA with heat pump, storm shelter, Bray School District and Lots of wildlife.

Vehicles: 2007 Lincoln MKX: 119k miles, leather, keyless entry, moon roof, navigation, heated/cooled seats. 2004 Chevy Silverado: 143k miles, crew cab, leather. 2012 Chevrolet Avalanche. **Household:** couch, chair w/ottoman, leather ottoman, end tables, blanket storage box, entertainment center, king/queen/full bed frames, trunks, cabinets, dining table w/6 chairs, round dining table w/4 chairs, breakfast table w/4 chairs, drop leaf tables, buffet, wicker chairs, dressing table (hi-boy), dresser (lo-boy), dressing screen, dressers, gun safe, wooden desk chairs, stained glass hanging pictures, pictures. **Antiques:** parlor furnace (McFarland Hotel Chickasha), RCA Victor AM radio/record player, radio cabinet, piano, Cecilian crank radio, Zenith radio, 33 & 45 records, cylinder records, singer treadle sewing machine, large & small crocks, churns, old stoves, creamery crates, pinball machines, old sled, cookie jars, marbles, old Life magazine w/Roger Maris & Mickey Mantle, old sports cards (Roger Maris, Johnny Bench-Rookie and many more), Hop-A-Long Cassidy items, Coca-Cola items, gumball machines, lanterns, enamel pans, old bottles, Frankoma/Weller/Hull/McCoy items, old steam irons, old paper signage, license plates, signs, Roy Rogers chaps, galvanized washtubs, old push plows, iron bed. **MISC Items:** Halliburton items, crosses, rocking chair, Precious Moments, cuckoo clock & clocks, lamps, filing cabinets, dishes, old washing machine, kitchen/household/antique/bathroom décor, spring shoes, café booth, Chevrolet bench, step stools, golf bags & golf clubs, milk cans, pottery wheel, pottery kiln, yard ornaments, patio & outside furniture, school bulletin board items. **Fishing Items:** old wooden fishing lure, fishing tubes and more. **Shop & Tool Items:** table saws, shaper, radial arm saw, sanders, hand tools, yard tools, drill bit 4 drawer wooden box, Craftsman 5hp/22 gallon air compressor, air compressors, John Deere yard sweeper, tool/laundry cart, 5' vise on stand, Ryobi Tiller, 10" table saw, band saw, cut-off saw, grinder, scroll saw, drill presses, miter saw, weed eaters, metal cabinet, wood shelves, furniture dolly, cash register, buggy springs, radios, 5 ½ pieces of white fencing, aluminum pots, Crosley washing machine, 2 man cross-cut saw, wooden pulleys, lumber. **Pool Items:** lounge chairs, pottery pots, chimneas, tiki bar, palm trees, bean bag floaties, serving cart, beach chairs (blue). **Old Toys & Games:** Popeye, Mickey Mouse items, Star Wars, Bryer horses, baseballs, catchers mask, football, '02 Ford Thunderbird OU car, Army jeep, Jim Beam car, Dick Tracy cars, skis, boat, Twin Spin, Skee-ball, All-Star basketball, electric baseball game, table tennis, backgammon/checkers, Candyland, Donald Duck, Ma Bell Monopoly, Pigskin football, Pro-Foto football, Electric football, All-Star baseball, All-American football, Ring Toss, Building blocks, Old Fort.

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Parker Scroggins – Sales Associate

Dunham reflects on one year of service

By Danielle Quickle

This time last year, Clifford Dunham had just been unanimously elected by the members of District 5 as their new representative on Cotton Electric’s Board of Trustees. Gearing up to attend his first Annual Meeting as a Trustee, he had no idea what his first year on the board would hold.

After one year of service to the co-op, Dunham’s transition from member to Trustee has allowed him to see the co-op in a new light.

“As a member, I didn’t understand the significance of the co-op,” Dunham said. “The co-op is such a great resource to its members and I now realize that I probably took it for granted.”

Dunham has been a Cotton Electric member since 2005, making his home west of the Chattanooga airport with his wife, Nikki, and three daughters: Taylor, Harlee and Maci. Nikki is a teacher at Chattanooga Public Schools, Taylor owns a beauty salon in Chattanooga, Harlee is a Bakery Manager and Maci recently began her senior year at Chattanooga High School.

Dunham is learning to juggle his new responsibilities at the co-op on top of being a family man with a full-time job as a National Field Manager for Product Service for Goodyear. Between board meetings, studying and training, attending to co-op business is no simple task.

“I have learned to check my calendar more often,” Dunham joked. “I would say I dedicate about 21 hours per month specifically to the co-op.”



Clifford Dunham, District 5

Dunham has recently earned his Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) Certificate and is working toward his Board Leadership Certificate (BLC). The CCD curriculum consists of five courses designed to provide essential knowledge and skills required of cooperative directors: Director Duties and Liabilities, Understanding the Electric Business, Board Operations and Process, Strategic Planning, and Financial Decision-Making.

“The CCD courses have helped me understand a lot about the electrical business as a whole,” Dunham said. “It has helped me to understand the questions I need to be asking on behalf of the members during our meetings.”

The courses and training designed for Trustees not only gives them better insight on how the business works, but shows them how electric cooperatives differ from other organizations.

“In my profession, we are mainly interested in making a profit,” Dunham said.

“Whereas, at the co-op we are trying to provide a service at a consistent and affordable rate. It is definitely a change.”

Cotton Electric’s board is made up of nine Trustees, each representing a different district in the co-op’s service territory. Dividing up the membership gives members the chance to be represented equally.

“I believe the board is structured well,” Dunham said. “It would be hard for one person to represent our entire membership, or even two people. Our membership is large and I think it requires multiple inputs.”

Having nine different Trustees also presents a variety of backgrounds and experiences to engage in decision making.

“We have farmers, lawyers, and business owners – I have a background in manufacturing and also do a little bit of farming,” Dunham said. “Our board is very diverse in the manner of which we are not all of one occupation or community.”

Dunham’s experiences bring a different perspective to the board that may not have been present before.

“I have worked in a manufacturing plant environment for the last 30 years. One of the take-aways from that experience is the need to support our members during non-typical work hours by offering online availability for the co-op,” Dunham said. “I understand the inconvenience of trying to take care of personal business during work hours. I also understand the importance of safety and that people should be able to go to work

and safely return home to their families.”

Trustees have the responsibilities to oversee and govern the co-op on behalf and for the benefit of the members. Dunham spends time engaging with members to emphasize the benefit of being a member of Cotton Electric.

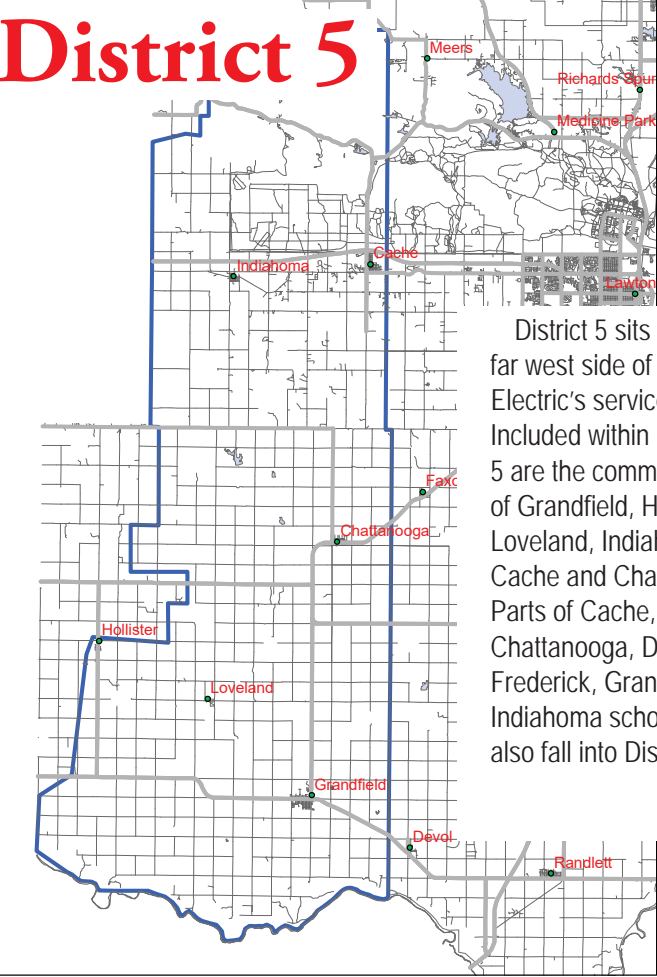
“Together we basically own this great business that allows us to have electricity. If it wasn’t for the co-op, these large businesses that provide electricity wouldn’t be interested in us and we wouldn’t have power or we would pay at a much higher rate,” Dunham said. “The benefit to our members is that they can pool together and have these commodities that are a necessity for our way of life and yet, still have the option to live where they want to.”

Everything Dunham does as a Trustee is for, not only the members of District 5, but for Cotton Electric’s entire membership as a whole.

“I think the number one thing I would want people to know about me is that I am a man of strong faith and I am going to do everything within my ability to learn how to be an effective board member,” Dunham said.

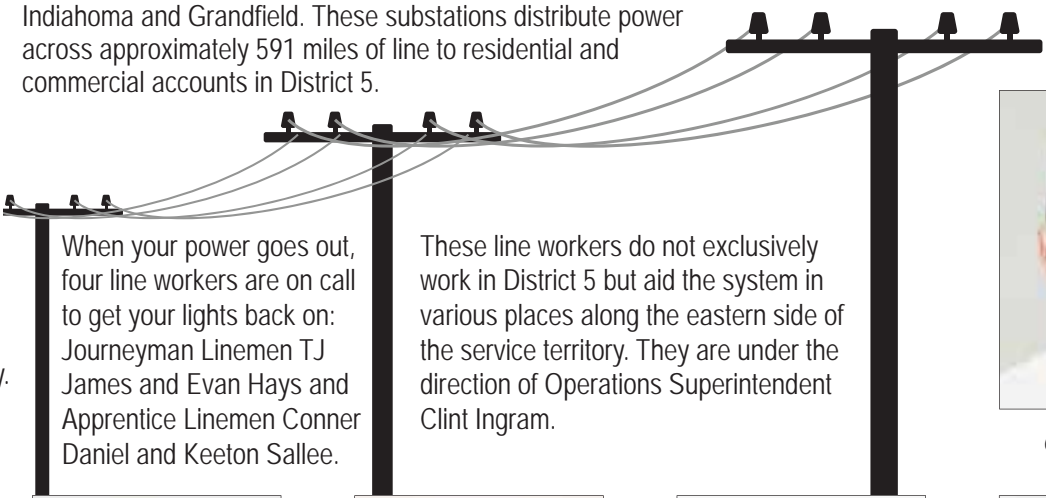
“I want to make decisions that reflect members’ best interests and if they ever felt like they had an issue that needed to be addressed, I want them to contact me about it.”

Members can catch up with Dunham at the upcoming Annual Meeting on Oct. 3 in Duncan.



District 5 sits on the far west side of Cotton Electric's service territory. Included within District 5 are the communities of Grandfield, Hollister, Loveland, Indiana, Cache and Chattanooga. Parts of Cache, Chattanooga, Davidson, Frederick, Grandfield and Indiana school districts also fall into District 5.

Members in this area are served by three substations: Cache, Indiana and Grandfield. These substations distribute power across approximately 591 miles of line to residential and commercial accounts in District 5.



When your power goes out, four line workers are on call to get your lights back on: Journeyman Linemen TJ James and Evan Hays and Apprentice Linemen Conner Daniel and Keeton Sallee.

These line workers do not exclusively work in District 5 but aid the system in various places along the eastern side of the service territory. They are under the direction of Operations Superintendent Clint Ingram.



Clint Ingram



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Conner Daniel



Evan Hays



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Working out of the Walters office are Member Services reps, standing from left, Jennifer Kriz, Tonya Daniel, Ashley Shortt, and, sitting from left, Jennie Evans, Angel Bowles and Karigan Brown.



In the Duncan office, members can find Member Services reps, from left, Laura Everett, Stephanie Christman and Vickie Smith.

Member Services strive for accuracy

By Danielle Quickle

If you have ever had questions about your account or an issue with your bill, then chances are you have spoken to one of the ladies in Cotton Electric’s Member Services department.

Member Services is one of the very few departments that works out of both Walters and Duncan. Members visiting the Duncan office have the opportunity to speak with Member Services Representatives Stephanie Christman and Laura Everett, who are supervised by Vickie Smith. Representatives Angel Bowles, Jennie Evans, Jennifer Kriz, Ashley Shortt and part-time helper Karigan Brown work out of the Walters office and are supervised by Tonya Daniel.

These ladies receive bill payments, create service orders, help address energy efficiency issues or simply answer any questions members may have on a daily basis.

“Our number one priority is to be available to our members, to answer any of their questions and to provide them the best service possible,” Daniel said. “They deserve accurate information from a friendly representative and we are here to do just that.”

It is Member Services’ responsibility to make sure member bills are precise and mailed out in a timely manner. Harder than it sounds, a lot goes into making sure members are receiving accurate information.

“We have to make sure metering is coming across accurately, that bills aren’t estimated, if possible, and that member consumption is within normal range.” Daniel said. “There is a lot entailed in ensuring all the information we receive and key is correct for our members.”

For residential accounts, there are two different billing options available to members through Member Services.

“Members can have a regular billing plan, which includes average billing, or bank draft where members

receive their bill in the mail. Or they can choose My-Choice, which is a pre-pay option that allows members to pay as they go,” Daniel said.

Regardless of choice of billing, there are a variety of ways to get your payment to Cotton Electric.

“Members can pay through SmartHub, the Cotton Electric website, over the phone or in-person at one of our offices, at Liberty National Bank, through a kiosk in Duncan, or by Moneygram,” Daniel said. “Moneygram is the only option that will charge the member to pay, all other options are free to the member and are designed to help meet the needs of a variety of members.”

An article explaining the benefits of SmartHub can be found on Page 3. Whether you pay your bill by phone, online or in-person, your payment is recorded by one of our Member Services representatives.

Next time you give these ladies a call, be sure to have your account number ready. In order to protect member information, employees of Cotton Electric cannot discuss account details without identifying information of the account holder, such as account number or Social Security number.

All but four of the employees that make up Member Services are Cotton Electric members themselves and the remaining four have immediate family served by co-op lines. Everything they do not only affects them, but the ones they love.

Some members may have recently visited with the Member Services representatives during registration at district meetings. If not, you can catch them at registration during our annual meeting on Oct. 3.

The department is currently working on Capital Credit retirements for members. Learn more about that in the October issue of The Current.

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Improvements also Include: The Home has a GE Dishwasher, GE Cook top, GE Double Oven, nice Refrigerator, Washer and Dryer and a Large Gun Safe that comes with the Home. The Home has a Large 3 Car Carport, Decor Brick Fence in the Front Yard, a Fenced in Backyard with an 8' Cyclone Fence and a Storm Shelter.

Also included with the Home: A Sheet Metal Barn (36'x40') with Concrete Floor and 2 Bays, a Sheet Metal Shop Building (28'x48') with 110 Volt Electricity and a 10'x10' Storage Shed (freshly painted). All Situated on 11.16 Acres.

Directions: In Duncan, Oklahoma - Follow Main Street to East Ridley Road to the Intersection of Willow Avenue; Go Northeast on Willow Avenue to Hamilton Street; Then Go North on Hamilton Street to Home with Improvements situated on 11.16 Acres.

Preview of the Home: Please call the Auction Company to make an Appointment to view the Property. Real Property is currently Owner Occupied.

Broker's Note: This is a very nice Home Place and Improvements with a Sheet Metal Shop and Barn. The Improvements are situated on 11.16 Acres. The Home is very Spacious and has been well Maintained. Please see to Appreciate!

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1938

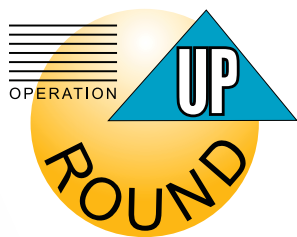
Cotton Electric made its headquarters in Walters on its original date of incorporation, Sept. 15, 1938. C.W. Cox was hired as the first manager.

1957

In the 1950s, the first issue of The Cotton Electric Current was published as a four-page broadsheet. The Current is the only broadsheet newspaper published in the United States by a rural electric cooperative. It has grown into a 20-to 24-page publication and is mailed to more than 15,000 homes.

1960

In 1960, Cotton Electric issued the first patronage re-fund checks. Since then, a total of more than \$12 million has been returned to members as their share in margins over and above the cost of operations of Cotton Electric and its power provider, Western Farmers Electric Cooperative. *Learn more about Capital Credit checks in the October issue of the Current.*



2004

In 2004, Cotton Electric Cooperative added an additional community service when it adopted the Operation Round Up program. Simply stated, Operation Round Up gathers voluntary contributions from participating co-op consumers by “rounding up” their monthly bills to the next dollar.

Also in 2004, Cotton Electric implemented an aggressive vegetation management policy in order to improve the quality of service to members. *See an update from Vegetation Management on Page 3.*

Today

Today, the cooperative provides jobs for approximately 90 people. The cooperative delivers electricity and electric service to more than 20,000 locations along a network of approximately 5,169 miles of line reaching into eight counties of southwest Oklahoma. The consumer-members own this electric plant valued at more than \$130 million, with total assets worth more than \$145 million. More information about today’s co-op can be found in the Annual Report, inserted into this paper.

1939

Aug. 26, 1939 was declared “The Day of Light.” The Walters Chamber of Commerce hosted a barbecue and special ceremony. The switch was thrown in an emotional ceremony, lighting up 150 homes along 109 miles of line.

1958

The Duncan area office was opened in 1958 to serve the many members in the Stephens County area. District warehouses are located at Chattanooga, Medicine Park, Velma, Duncan and Waurika.

1976

District boundaries were revised in 1976. Round-the-clock dispatching was added to assure prompt response to outages at all hours.

1984

A subsidiary corporation, Cotton Electric Services, Inc., was organized in 1984, offering sales and installation of satellite TV receiver systems. They also provided sales, installation and repair of electric heat pumps and refrigeration equipment.

In the ’90s, a testing laboratory for insulated safety gloves and other rubber goods was added through Cotton Electric Services. Today, the employees test not only Cotton’s equipment but that of other utilities across a wide area.



2017

In 2017, Cotton Electric’s power provider built a new substation near Devol in the southwest corner of the service territory. This created an opportunity to launch a metering pilot project, exploring new technology that can improve outage restoration efforts. Nearby, 950 solar modules quietly soak up energy produced by the sun. The solar site generated 446 MWh of energy in its first year.



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Additional Improvements include Parking Lot with ample Parking. All Situated on a nice 95'x200' Lot with 95' of Highway Frontage located near the Stephens County Fairgrounds and the Future Home of the City of Duncan new City Hall.

Zoning: C-4 General Commercial District: The C-4 General Commercial District is intended for the Conduct of Personal and Business Services and the General Retail Business of the Community.

Note: C-4 is the highest rating in the Commercial Zoning Category.

Broker's Note: This would serve as good Restaurant Area. Formally Known as the Ole South Waffle House. Please see to Appreciate!

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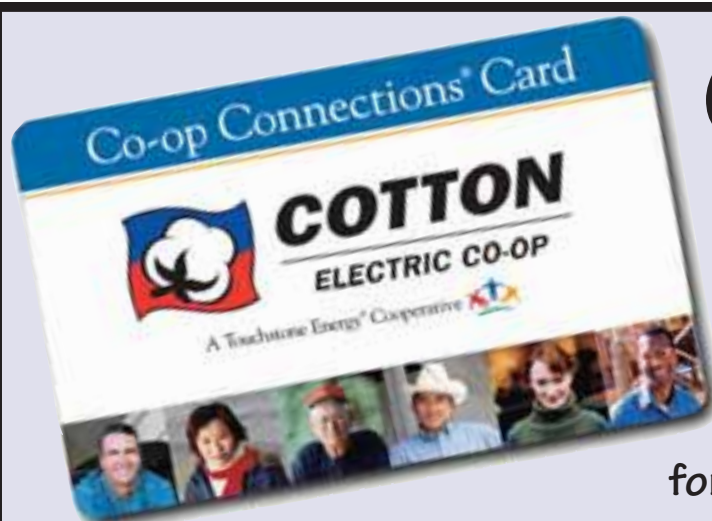
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Children's Consignment Lawton
FREE Admission to events & \$5 off purchase of \$25 or more.
2 Sales A Year, Spring & Fall
jbfsale.com 580-656-3073

Kimberly's Made in America

10% Off All Purchases
910 W. Main, Duncan
Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 10am-5pm

Lakeside Golf Course

\$5 green fees all day on Mon. & Tues.
Hours: 7 a.m. to dark
Walters, OK 580-875-3829

Ligon's Garden Center

10% off
301 S. Highway 81
580-470-8848 • Duncan

Linda's Carpet

Free vacuum cleaner with purchase of \$2,000 on Stainmaster carpets
4010 N. Hwy. 81 • Duncan

Nancy's Antiques

20% discount storewide
Hwy. 70, west side of railroad tracks
Waurika, OK
580-228-2575 or 228-2011

Nita's Flowers

Helen Thomas - owner
10% discount
114 N. Broadway, Marlow • 580-658-2714
Mon.-Fri. 8:30-5 • Sat. 8:30-2

On The Hill Gypsy Horses

Horse Breeding & Sales
\$100 off of breeding fee, or purchase of horse.
By Appointment: 580-641-2022 or
580-656-2475: lee@on-the-hill.net

Osage Animal Hospital

\$5 off professional examination
1500 W. Osage, Duncan • 580-255-4200
Mon.-Fri. 7:45 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Pink Rebel Clothing Co.

15% off all regular priced purchases
312 West Main, Marlow
580-641-1619
Tues-Fri 11-5:30, Sat 10-3
Find Us On Facebook

Plumb Right

5% discount on services.
Elgin, OK • 580-512-3903
werplumbright@gmail.com
9am-5pm;
5pm-7am Emergency Hours

Rick Wylie Construction

5% discount on 8x10 & 6x8 storm shelters; 10% discount on 8x12 and larger.
580-656-5031 • 8:00 am - 8:00 pm
rwstormshelters@gmail.com

Ringtail USA

Monogramming, screen printing
Buy 12 caps or T-shirts, GET ONE FREE
P.O. Box 1763, Duncan, OK 73534
<http://ringtailusa.com> • 580-439-6560

Rose's Custom LLC

10% discount on purchases over \$200
580-252-9633 Fax: 580-255-6897
Mon - Fri 8-5 • 604 S. 7th, Duncan
rosescustom@yahoo.com

Shane Burk Glass & Mirror

Free mobile service in Stephens, Comanche, Grady, Jefferson, Caddo or Cotton counties or 15% off any residential or business windows or in-shop glass replacement.
580-252-5939
shaneburkautoglass.com

Showman's Choice

10% off Professional's Choice
M-F 8-5:30, Sat. 10-2
1205 SW Sheridan, Lawton
580-355-7469

Solid Plumbing

10% off all service calls, \$125 sewer camera, \$175 slab leak detection
2809 NW Sheridan Rd, Lawton
580-353-2863

Southern Maid Donuts

10% off donut & pizza purchases
101 Thoma Dr. #A, Elgin, OK
Open 5 a.m.-noon & 4 p.m.-8 p.m.
Tue. - Sat.
580-492-6123

Southern Trophy

10% off items in Gifts to Treasure shop
9-5 Mon.-Fri.
908 W. Main, Duncan
580-252-7866

Stephens County Humane Society

\$10.00 off adoption fee
714 Martin Luther King Blvd.
580-252-7387

Steppin' Outdoors

15% off all guides & tours.
20% off sponsorship rates.
580-450-1599
SteppinOutDoorsToday.com

Studio 17 Salon & Gifts

15% off products or retail purchases
8176 State Hwy. 17, Elgin
580-492-4744
Sharla Spencer, owner

Sue Cabelka, Realtor

Premier Real Estate
\$500 off seller's closing costs
201 SW 7th St., Lawton
580-699-5566 • 580-591-3362

Sylvan Learning

Tutoring/Education
Schedule an assessment and \$60 will be deducted from the cost. This is a lifetime assessment fee, no charge for further testing at our center.
2603 NW Cache Rd., Suite 2, Lawton
580-351-9100

The Salt Cellar

15% off non-sale items, excluding boxed cards and gift cards
3801 NW Cache Road, #23, Lawton
9 a.m. - 7 p.m. Mon.-Sat. • 580-357-5443

Wichita Furniture

10% off new purchases
1127 NW Cache Rd, Lawton
580-355-7425
9am-6pm: Mon-Sat



Keep up with all the local and national discounts by downloading the Co-op Connections Card phone app at www.connections.coop.

Cotton Electric Co-op members get extra relief by presenting their Co-op Connections Card when getting prescriptions filled at participating pharmacies.

In 2018, members used their cards for discounts on 899 prescriptions not covered by insurance. A total of \$16,467.67 was discounted for an average

savings of \$18.32 per use. The card is free to all members and can be obtained by calling 580-875-3351.

To find a participating pharmacy, call Member Services at 800-800-7616 or visit www.locateproviders.com. Type 2203OK19 into the Group field and click 'log in' to start your search.

