



# Co-op Comments



Lindsay, Oklahoma

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## Fire departments receive grants

Including Rural Electric Cooperative's 2010 grants, area fire departments have received \$249,600 over the past 20 years. Twenty-three area fire departments shared \$13,950 for 2010 to help improve their fire-fighting efforts and save property and lives.

REC hosted their 20th Annual Fire Fighters Banquet on Thursday, March 11, 2010 to honor the men and women who make up the fire protection in REC's service area. Most of those in attendance were from volunteer fire departments.

Area residents volunteer their time to staff the departments and fight fires within their communities. They also aide other departments when necessary. Most of these departments depend on fund raisers like bean suppers and bake sales for operating monies. They also receive some donations/grants from businesses and individuals from within their communities.

In addition to fighting fires, maintenance and equipment repair is performed by the volunteers. Long hours are spent at night and on weekends by firefighters to keep their equipment in working order.

REC recognizes the importance of the tasks these folks perform and the obstacles they must overcome to do their job. The grant program is the Cooperative's way of expressing



**FIRE FIGHTERS** from area departments are shown at the REC Firemen's banquet held recently in Lindsay. Those in attendance include, front row, left to right: Mike Clifton, Purcell; Kevin Ince, Bradley; Jonathan Wilk, Washington; Justin Walck, Payne; Brent Balentine, Pernell; Mark Smith, Cox City; and State Representative Lisa Billy. Second row, left to right: Ronnie Poe, Dibble; Darrell Clagg, Elmore City; Joe Caldwell, Maysville; Kevin Reed, Ninnekah; Dereck Halford, Alex; Jay Selzer, Lindsay; and State Representative Joe Dorman. Back row, left to right: Allan Hensley, Katie; Richard McCarty, Rush Creek; Rodney Christian, Naples; Justin Wenzel, Farwell; Dusty Langham, Acme; Bennie Whaley, Bray; and Jeff Spivey, Bailey.

thanks for their hard work protecting rural folks and their property.

Departments receiving grants include: Acme, Alex, Bailey, Bradley, Bray, Cox City, Dibble, Doyle, Elmore City, Farwell, Katie, Lindsay, Maysville, Naples, Ninnekah, Paoli, Payne, Pernell, Purcell, Rush Creek, Rush Springs, Washington and Wayne.

Collectively the 23 departments

have 380 firefighters trained to fight wildfires as well as structure fires. During 2009 they fought approximately 1,500 fires.

Volunteer fire departments date back to Ben Franklin. In 1736, he organized Philadelphia's Union Fire Company, the first in the city. His famous saying, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," was actually fire-fighting advice.

From Dale Nye, REC Manager/CEO

# “Blinks” can signal a properly working electrical system

It's not unusual for us to hear members inquire, “What causes my lights to blink?” A blink may be defined as short-term losses of power.

Rural Electric Cooperative takes all possible measures to prevent these occurrences and minimize the effects to our members. Blinking lights are a result of some type of disturbance on the line. This could be weather related, an accident such as an automobile striking a pole, or when a animal or tree branch comes into contact with an energized power line.

When lights blink, it is an indication that the cooperative's equipment is operating properly. If a fault or short circuit happens on a power line, a device called an “oil circuit recloser” (OCR) opens to stop it, then quickly closes back in. Although the process is quick and

usually temporary, it may cause lights to blink, making it necessary to reset digital clocks and appliances with digital displays.

The OCR is essentially a breaker, functioning much like a breaker in the electrical panel in your home. It permits power to continue flowing through the line with only a brief interruption of service. If the short circuit continues, the OCR will operate or ‘trip’ three times before eventually stopping the flow of electricity and causing a power outage. This process protects the lines from damage, cutting off power to the affected section of the line and isolating the problem until it can be repaired.

Although the weather and wildlife are beyond our control, cooperative members can lessen the effects and inconvenience of “blinks” when they occur. When purchasing small appliances and digital clocks, consider a model with battery backup. You may also want to install meter-base surge protection for the major appliances in your home and surge protection with built-in uninterruptible power supply (UPS) for your computer or other electronic devices whose “memory” would be lost with a power interruption.

We will continue working to limit the short-term power losses but I doubt that we can ever completely eliminate them.



DALE NYE

## Co-op Comments

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# REC youth programs winners named

Area students were honored on March 8 by REC as winners of three contests sponsored by the Cooperative. Students in the eighth grade, high school juniors and seniors are eligible to participate.

Eighth graders wrote an essay for a chance to attend YouthPower Energy Camp this summer. Eight students are sponsored by REC and will attend Canyon Camp. 722600

Juniors also wrote an essay for a chance to win a trip to either Washington, D.C. on the Youth Tour or to Steamboat Springs, CO to a youth leadership conference.

Six finalists were selected from the essays. These six then made an oral presentation of their essays to judges to select the trip winners. Three students won trips to Washington and three to Steamboat Springs.

High school seniors whose parents are members of REC were eligible to make applications for a chance to win a scholarship. REC awarded 11 scholarships this year. Two students, Caleb Howard of Elmore City-Pernell and Cheyenne Frizzell of Maysville were winners of \$1,200 scholarships. The other nine students received \$600 scholarships.



**SCHOLARSHIP** winners from REC are shown following the banquet honoring the Cooperative's youth program winners. Shown are, left to right, front row: REC Board Member and Chairperson of the Youth Committee Merlene Rust; Ashley Avery, Lindsay; Jessica Hays, Wynnewood; Amber Chaney, Ninnekah; Jessica Goyne and Mackenzie Davis, both of Alex. Back row, left to right, Daniel Thurston, Alex; Kody McKay, Rush Springs; Caleb Howard, Justin Anderson and Colton Herrod, all of Elmore City-Pernell. Not pictured is Cheyenne Frizzell of Maysville.



**YOUTH TOUR** winners for 2010 are, left to right, front row: Mitchell Turpin and Whitney Lowe from Rush Springs and Carly Davis from Maysville. Youth Leadership Conference winners are, left to right back row: Courtney Lariscy, Jessica Shaffer and Trent Brownen all of Lindsay.

Students, parents, teachers and school administration attended the banquet to honor students.



**ENERGY CAMP** winners are Sierra Mullen, Maysville, Brittany Daniels, Dashanna Ryans both of Lindsay and Grayson Kuehny of Elmore City-Pernell. Back row: Trey Gill, Maysville; Paige Finney, Lindsay; Sarah Combes, Elmore City-Pernell; and not shown, David Moore, Lindsay.

## - WANT ADS -

### REAL ESTATE –

FOR SALE: Insulated well houses. PH: 580-641-1267 or 580-476-2608.

FOR SALE: 90 acres in 1 or 2 parcels. (1) 10 acres w/3-bdrm, 2-ba, 2-car attached garage, brick home w/many amenities including Pella triple pane windows, quartz kitchen counter tops, ash cabinets, 50-yr roof, lg. cedar closet, 40' x 50' steel workshop, 48' x 60' Morton multi-purpose bldg, 45' x 45' hay barn, steel corral, pond. (2) 80 acres Rush Creek bottom land w/400 pecan trees & Bermuda pasture, steel perimeter and cross fences, 3 ponds, 5 cattle guards, rural water, 2 miles west of Pauls Valley. Reduced price to sell. Owner will finance WAC. PH: 405-238-0363.

### PETS & LIVESTOCK –

FOR SALE: 7-yr old black gelding quarter horse, green broke. PH: 405-574-6323.

FOR SALE: Miniature sorrel pinto AMHA registered & AMHR registered 7-mo old stallion, loves attention. PH: 580-476-2304.

FOR SALE: Horses-mares & colts, all colors & sizes. \$1 & up. PH: 405-207-4884.

### MISECLLANEOUS –

FOR SALE: Gibson acoustic guitar w/electric pick up & hard shell case, very nice. PH: 580-476-3922.

FOR SALE: Farm fresh eggs. PH: 405-222-5821.

### FARM MACHINERY -

FOR SALE: New Idea, model 5410 disk mower, 10' cut, good condition, \$2,400. PH: 405-222-4684.

## 24 HOUR ANSWERING

Available for Reporting

Power  
Outages

&

Emergencies

405-756-3104

or

1-800-259-3504

## You could win \$10

Each month one account number is printed within an article of the newsletter. The person assigned that account number is the winner of the \$10 credit.

To claim the prize, the member must locate their number and contact REC's business office for verification before the tenth of the month.

## Account number worth \$10 credit

If you locate your account number within an article of this issue, it will be good for a \$10 credit on your electric bill.

To claim the prize, you must locate the account number - if the number is your's, contact REC and we will credit your account.

Only the member assigned that account number is eligible to claim the prize. If you don't know your account number it can be located on your electric bill.

## Connections deals

**A & K Cleaners, Lindsay** - 10% Off Laundry of Jeans and Shirts;

**Best Western, Chickasha** -15% Off Regular Room Rate;

**Blue Moose Outdoor Portable Rentals, Elmore City** - 5% Off Septic Tank Pumping, Tent Rental and Special Event Toilet Rentals;

**Edwards Canvas, Pauls Valley** - 5% Off;

**In Touch Communications, Pauls Valley** - 25% Off All In-Stock Accessories;

**Jenny's Pics Photography, Lindsay** - 10% Off \$50 or More Purchase of Pictures;

**Karon's Serenity Spa, Elmore City** - 10% Off Selected Products in Stock (Excludes Other Promotional Offers)

**Lindsay Flowers, Lindsay** - 10% Off All Green Plants and Fresh Arrangements (Excluding Funeral Arrangements);

**Let's Ride Leather & More, Maysville** - 10% Off Purchase of \$100 or More;

**Lindsay Pit Stop, Lindsay** - \$5 Off Any Full Service Oil Change;

**M & M Furniture, Chickasha** -10% Off any Purchase;

**Maysville Flowers & Gifts, Maysville;** 10% Off all Green Plants;

**Mazzio's Italian Eatery, Purcell** - Buy a Pizza at Reg. Price Get The Next Pizza of Equal Amount or Less at 1/2 Price;

**Photos by Ginger, Pauls Valley** - 1 Free 8x10 Print With First Order (\$25 minimum);

**Terminix International, Chickasha and Lawton** - 10% Discount Initial Termite or Pest Control Service;

**The Leopard Lasso, Wynnewood** - 10% Off.

**Western Fuel Co., Maysville** - 2 cents Off per gallon propane. Cash sales only. (No other discounts allowed).