



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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WESTERN COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC **NEWS**

WESTERN COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC, INC.

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Nolan Numrich
CEO/General Manager

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FROM THE MANAGER

Your Power, Our Purpose

With Western Cooperative Electric's 80th Annual Meeting right around the corner, I want to stress the importance of your participation in the democratic process that defines our cooperative. This year's theme — **YOUR POWER, OUR PURPOSE** — perfectly encapsulates our cooperative's commitment to empowering you, our members, and ensuring your voices guide our decisions.

In the coming days, you will receive your ballots for the trustee elections. By taking the time to vote, you help shape the leadership of Western Cooperative Electric. Our trustees play an essential role in making decisions that align with our values and meet your needs. Your vote ensures that the cooperative remains true to its mission, reflects the community's priorities, and continues to provide safe, affordable and reliable service. These elections are not just about filling

seats; they are about finding leaders who understand the cooperative principles that drive us forward and who will advocate for the best interests of the membership.

This year's ballot also includes proposed bylaw changes. These changes are designed to bring clarity and transparency to our governance while providing us with the flexibility to serve you better and work more effectively with our members. By voting on these changes, you help us ensure that Western Cooperative Electric remains adaptive and accountable, making it easier for us to meet the challenges of today and tomorrow.

I encourage you to take time to carefully review the candidate profiles and the proposed bylaw changes. Your informed participation is vital to the



Nolan Numrich

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ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Turn your suds into savings. Lower your energy use in the laundry room by washing clothes with cold water whenever possible, as heating water accounts for most of the energy used in a laundry cycle. Wash full loads to make the most of energy savings, and use high-efficiency detergent designed for cold washes. For drying cycles, clean the lint filter before each load to improve airflow and use dryer balls to reduce drying time. **SOURCE: NRECA**



WIRED FOR SERVICE

**We thank electrical lineworkers
for their commitment
to powering our local communities.**

**LINEWORKER APPRECIATION DAY
APRIL 14, 2025**



YOUR POWER, OUR PURPOSE

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cooperative's continued success and to ensure we are all moving in the same direction.

I also want to personally invite you to our **ANNUAL MEETING ON MAY 14 AT THE VFW HALL IN WAKEENEY, KANSAS**. The meeting will begin at noon, and we will be providing a delicious lunch for all attendees. This event is more than just an update; it's a chance for you to engage with your cooperative's leadership and hear about the successes and challenges we've faced over the past year. You'll learn about our plans for the future, including how we are working to enhance our services and improve the cooperative for all members. You'll also have the opportunity to ask questions, voice your concerns, and provide feedback.

The annual meeting is a cornerstone of our cooperative's commitment to the **SEVEN COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES**. These principles guide everything we do and ensure that we operate in our members' best interest. The democratic member control principle comes alive in our trustee elections and the annual meeting, where you, as members, have the power to decide the future of Western Cooperative Electric.

We look forward to seeing you on May 14 and working together to shape the future of Western Cooperative Electric.

HERE TO SERVE, NOLAN NUMRICH
CEO/GM, WESTERN COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC

Linemen Are Wired for Service

They are the individuals who epitomize dedication to service in its purest form. As we celebrate Lineworker Appreciation Day on April 14, this is an important moment to reflect on their essential role in our daily lives.

Amid towering utility poles and power lines, linemen exhibit a strength that goes far beyond the physical. Whether battling inclement weather, troubleshooting technical problems, or navigating treacherous heights, linemen demonstrate resilience and a quiet determination to keep our lights on, our homes comfortable, and our communities connected.

Western Cooperative Electric crews travel across our 13-county service territory, building, maintaining and repairing parts of our local system. Their extraordinary skills ensure our homes remain connected to the grid, businesses stay operational, and emergency services remain accessible — a lifeline that connects us all.

In moments of crisis, when the lights go out and we find ourselves in the dark, lineworkers emerge as beacons of hope. Their swift response restores normalcy, offering reassurance in times of uncertainty. Whether repairing storm-ravaged power lines or ensuring continuity during emergencies, their unwavering commitment illuminates life when we need it most.

This month, as we celebrate the remarkable men and women who ensure reliable power, let's recognize their unwavering dedication to the local communities they serve.

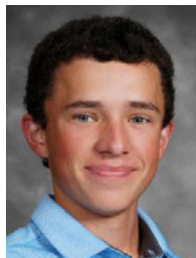
The next time you flip a switch, please take a moment to remember those who make it possible — lineworkers, who are wired for service and dedicated to illuminating life.

**Visit Western
Cooperative's
Facebook page
on Lineman
Appreciation Day,
April 14, to
"Thank a Lineman."**

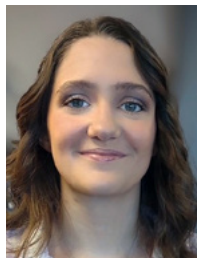
Western Selects Youth for Summer Programs



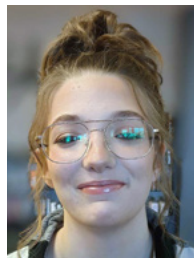
Nick Robben
Electric Cooperative
Youth Tour



Ethan Carroll
Electric Cooperative
Youth Tour



Delilah Reeve
Cooperative Youth
Leadership Camp



Payton Reeve
Cooperative Youth
Leadership Camp

Western Cooperative Electric is proud to announce the selection of four outstanding local students to represent the cooperative in this year's youth leadership programs. Two of the students will be traveling to Washington, D.C., for the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour, while the other two will attend the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp near Steamboat Springs, Colorado. These programs provide a unique opportunity for young leaders to learn about the cooperative business model, engage with peers from across the nation, and experience leadership development activities in a hands-on environment.

THE STUDENTS CHOSEN FOR THE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE YOUTH TOUR ARE:

- **NICK ROBBERN**, Hoxie High School, son of Doug & Kim Robben
- **ETHAN CARROLL**, Ellis High School, son of Matt & Nicole Carroll

THE STUDENTS SELECTED FOR THE COOPERATIVE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP ARE:

- **DELILAH REEVER**, Otis-Bison High School, daughter of Kristi Reeve
- **PAYTON REEVER**, Otis-Bison High School, daughter of Kristi Reeve

"We are thrilled to offer these students the chance to participate in such impactful programs," said Nolan Numrich, CEO/GM. "These trips will provide not only a deeper understanding of cooperatives but also an opportunity for these young leaders to grow and develop skills they can carry into their future careers and community involvement."

TIPS TO AVOID UTILITY SCAMS



Don't fall for a power restoration rip-off. Some scammers will contact you and offer to restore power quickly or in a preferential order if you make an immediate payment. These scams typically occur after major storms or disasters that cause widespread outages. We will never request or require payment to restore power after a natural disaster or storm.

SOURCE: UTILITIES UNITED AGAINST SCAMS



NEW FACES

Western Cooperative Electric is excited to announce the appointment of **STEVE HAUSLER** to its board of trustees, filling the vacancy left by the passing of long-serving member Richard Schaus. With a robust background in power supply and communications, Hausler brings a wealth of industry knowledge and a fresh perspective to the board. "We are thrilled to welcome Steve to the board," said Board President Nick Zerr. "His experience and insights will be invaluable as we continue to navigate the evolving energy landscape and work to meet the needs of our members."



Steve Hausler

In addition, **CHRISTINA HAYES** has been hired as the new manager of member services. With more than a decade of experience in communications and community outreach, Hayes will play a key role in enhancing member satisfaction and refining the cooperative's service offerings.



Christina Hayes

"Christina's expertise and commitment to excellence make her a great addition to our team," said Nolan Numrich CEO/GM. "We look forward to her leadership as we strengthen relationships with our members and continue to provide reliable, affordable energy solutions that meet their evolving needs."

Western Cooperative is excited for the contributions Steve and Christina will make in advancing the organization's mission and values.

WELCOME ABOARD, STEVE AND CHRISTINA!

1945 • SERVING KANSAS • 2025



ANNUAL 80TH MEETING

WESTERN

CO-OP ELECTRIC



YOUR POWER, OUR PURPOSE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14

Door Prizes | Cooperative Updates | Trustee Election Results

**DOORS OPEN AT 11 A.M.
LUNCH & MEETING AT NOON**

VFW POST 3449 | 400 N. RAILROAD AVE. | WAKEENEY, KANSAS