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635 S. 13th Street

P.O. Box 278

WaKeeney, KS 67672

785-743-5561

FAX: 785-743-2717

www.westerncoop.com

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Charles Luetters Receives Director Gold Credential

CHARLES LUETTERS, member of Western Cooperative Electric's board of trustees, has received the Director Gold credential from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). Luetters attended training classes conducted by NRECA earlier this year.

Today's electric utility environment imposes new demands on electric cooperative directors, particularly increased knowledge of changes in the electric utility business, new governance skills and a working knowledge of the cooperative principles.

Western Cooperative Electric has a commitment to work through NRECA and our statewide association, Kansas Electric Cooperatives, to sharpen this body of knowledge for the benefit of their electric cooperative consumer-members.

Five of the nine board members for Western have attained the Director Gold credential, as all board members continue to attend training sessions to either achieve or maintain this certification.



Charles Luetters



Fall Back on Nov. 4

On Sunday, Nov. 4, remember to turn your clocks back one hour. It is also a good time to change the batteries in your smoke detectors and have a professional check your fire extinguishers.

YOUTH PROGRAMS **BUILD**

Apply for Trips & Scholarships



Paul Brull enjoys the view outside of the White House on the 58th Annual Electric Cooperative Youth Tour.

Each year, Western Cooperative Electric offers free trips to four youth from our membership. If you are a high school junior whose parents/guardians are Western members, submit your application for a trip to Washington, D.C., or Steamboat Springs, Colorado, and for scholarships too!

The Electric Cooperative Youth Tour and Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp are much more than sightseeing and adventures. Students spend every waking minute together for a solid week, and it's not uncommon for lasting friendships to form. In fact, many of Kansas' past participants ended up being college roommates, professional colleagues and lifelong friends. Most importantly, these youth programs inspire many students to discover who they want to be.

and memorials, including the Lincoln Memorial, the Jefferson Memorial and Mt. Vernon.

While in Washington, D.C., students will meet with state and national legislators and nationally recognized speakers to talk about current topics important to our rural communities. Many past participants were so inspired by this experience that they later served as interns on Capital Hill, and many have pursued a career in politics.

To see what's in store, visit <http://bit.ly/dcytvideo2015>.



Lane Fischer (left) and Zach Gillespie attended the 42nd Annual Cooperative Leadership Camp.

Tour our Nation's Capital

Imagine—a chance to visit our nation's capital for one week, meet with more than 1,800 students from across the U.S. and visit with Kansas' senators and congressional representatives. The best part? It won't cost you a penny.

Western will choose two winners to go to the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., from June 13-20, 2019.

The weeklong trip to Washington, D.C., is jam-packed with sightseeing. Students will visit many of the major monuments

Adventure in the Rockies

Two winners will also be chosen to attend Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, July 12-18, 2019.

Rafting, hiking and building memories—it's not just another trip! Campers will stay at the scenic Glen Eden Resort in the beautiful Rocky Mountains. At camp, you will join winners from other co-ops in Kansas, Colorado, Oklahoma and Wyoming

Scan these Codes to Get More Information

Download a free scanning app in the Apple App Store or Google Play.

Electric Cooperative Youth Tour



Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp



to build valuable leadership skills while forming lasting friendships.

So pack your sunscreen and hiking shoes and get ready to build memories that will last a lifetime.

Learn more at <http://bit.ly/CYLCVideo>.

There's More—Winners Earn Scholarships, too!

In addition to the trips, each of our top four winners will receive a \$250 scholarship. Our fifth place winner will receive the Darrell J. Brown Memorial \$250 scholarship.

To apply, students submit an application and résumé, take an open-book quiz and write a short essay on a topic to be announced. Based on these items, finalists will be selected for an interview at the Western office on Sunday, Feb. 3, 2019.

The Electric Cooperative Youth Tour, Cooperative Youth Leadership and scholarships are just a few of the ways we're investing in our future leaders. Western does so much more than provide safe, reliable and affordable power—we are dedicated to improving the futures of students in our community because we know they are next in line to lead the way.

To apply for a chance to attend the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour or Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp, please complete the form below and return to Western Cooperative Electric Association Inc., 635 S. 13th St., P.O. Box 278, WaKeeney, KS, 67672. Applications can also be downloaded from Western's website www.westerncoop.com.

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY DEC. 14, 2018.

For more information contact Christina Lowry or Shelli Nowlin at 785-743-5561 or 800-456-6720.



Campers go rafting during Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Next year's camp is scheduled for July 12-18, 2019.



During the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour students, like Josiah Bolton in 2018, visit Mt. Vernon. Next year's tour will be June 13-20, 2019.

Application for Youth Tour Contest – Due Dec. 14, 2018

To apply for a chance to attend the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour or Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp, please complete the form below and return to Western Cooperative Electric Association Inc., 635 S. 13th St., P.O. Box 278, WaKeeney, KS 67672, by Dec. 14, 2018.

Name of Applicant _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

School _____ Year in School _____ Date of Birth _____

Name of Parent(s) or Guardian(s) _____

Parent(s) or Guardian(s) Phone Number(s) _____

Western Cooperative Electric Account Number _____

I agree that all information supplied in this application is accurate and true.

Signature of Applicant _____

Western Cooperative Electric Awards Graham County Rec Commission Sharing Success Grant

Western Cooperative Electric is pleased to announce the Graham County Recreation Commission as one of three recipients of this year's Sharing Success Grant sponsored by Western and CoBank.

In May, Graham County along with the City of Hill City, received a large amount of rain within a 24-hour period creating flood conditions.

"These flood waters were destructive and left nothing to salvage in its path," said Mickie Helberg, Graham County emergency management director.

One of the areas hit hard was the Boyd-Powers Sports Complex. This complex consists of four ball fields that host community soccer, T-ball, softball, baseball and co-ed events.

"Everything was destroyed," said Tawny Ashbaugh, spokesperson for the rebuilding committee.

As with any small community, funds

We appreciate all donations to this project. This is one of many steps to start the rebuilding process.

TAWNY ASHBAUGH, REBUILDING COMMITTEE SPOKESPERSON

are limited to rebuild a complex of this size while providing a safe and enjoyable environment. The Graham County Rec Commission contacted Western, and Western's Board of Trustees responded with a donation of \$1,500 and a match from CoBank for a total donation of \$3,000.

"We appreciate all donations to this project," said Ashbaugh. "This is one of many steps to start the rebuilding process"

"Thanks to our board of trustees and Co-Bank, the Sharing Success Grant has enabled Western to participate in projects such as this," said Tom Ruth, Western Cooperative Electric general manager.

CoBank is a national nonprofit cooperative bank owned by the rural American cooperatives it serves, including Western.

This year, CoBank established a \$3 million fund to match charitable contributions made by its co-op members across the nation. This matching grant program--Sharing Success--is designed to cel-



Spring floods caused major damage at Boyd-Powers Sports Complex. Sharing Success funds were used to help repair the damages.

brate the vital role cooperatives play in communities across the country. Contributions made during a calendar year will be matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis, from a minimum of \$1,000 up to a maximum of \$5,000. CoBank states that partnering with their customers to support worthy causes they care about is a great way for them to make a positive difference and fulfill its mission of service to rural America.

Become a Co-op Voter

Western Cooperative Electric has joined America's electric cooperatives in participating in the Co-ops Vote campaign. Presenting issues important to co-ops into public discussion while promoting voting are included within the campaign. Here's what you can do to help.

- ▶ Be sure to register to vote by visiting www.ksvotes.org.
- ▶ Visit the Co-ops Vote website, www.vote.coop, and take the pledge to become a co-op voter to support your community and electric cooperatives when casting your vote in 2018.

- ▶ Get to your polling place on Tuesday, Nov. 6, or take advantage of early advance voting either by in-person voting at your county election office or by requesting a mail-in ballot.

Co-ops Vote is a non-partisan program developed by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), the national service organization that represents the nation's more than 900 private, not-for-profit, consumer-owned electric cooperatives. With 42 million members across the nation, electric co-ops are a powerful voice on national issues that have a lo-



cal impact. Electric cooperatives across the state, including Western Cooperative Electric and our statewide service association Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc., support this grassroots effort to raise co-op voter awareness.

If you have any questions, please visit www.vote.coop or contact us directly at 800-748-7395. We hope to see you at the polls!