

Co-op Comments

June 2017

Tony Henson retires after 31 years

After working for over 31 years, Tony Henson has retired from Rural Electric. Starting in 1985, Tony began in the construction crew running the digger truck and then moved to the maintenance crew. In 1989, he moved to materials and he remained in that department ever since.

“I have had a lot of different job titles while I have worked in the warehouse, before becoming the Warehouse Supervisor,” Tony says.

When Tony started at REC, he was farming full time, but he was looking for a job with good benefits and a good place to work. He continued to farm while he was working here and now he is going back to farming all the time.

“I am looking forward to slowing down some and enjoy farming,” Tony adds. “While I loved working at REC, I am ready to get back to my first love of farming.”

Tony and his wife Sheila have 140 acres

of alfalfa, 125 acres of soybeans and wheat, 3,600 plants of watermelon and cantaloupe and cattle to tend. Tony does plan to travel some, take an Alaskan cruise, and spend time with his family. However, managing the farm will take most his time.

“I am going to miss everyone I worked with here at REC,” Tony says. “Working here everyone becomes close and it is like a family. While I will miss everyone, I am looking forward to new opportunities.”



Tony Henson retires from REC after 31 years of service.

Add value through member engagement



Most consumers would not equate active involvement with their electric company with helping their community; however, Rural Electric is not an ordinary utility company. We're a co-op, and our business model is meant to serve our members and the community in which it operates – not to make a hefty profit for investors five states away. REC's customers are more than consumers; they are members of the cooperative. And herein lies the difference.

Our core purpose and mission is to provide safe, reliable and affordable power to our members. But as a co-op, we are motivated by service to the community, rather than profits. After meeting our annual expenses, we invest the extra money back into the co-op and the wider community. We depend on the guidance and perspective of our members and Board to help set priorities for the co-op and guide governance decisions. At our annual meeting, we raise issues for voting consideration by the general membership. Our Board of

Trustees are comprised of members who live and work in our service area, for they are in a position to know where community investments are most needed.

Rural Electric is controlled by members who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions. This is why we value your participation in our annual meeting, held in October, and in other co-op events. I hope you will consider running for the Board of our co-op. Rural Electric has numerous ongoing programs impacting the communities we serve. Every summer, for example, we participate in sending eight eighth graders to Energy Camp to learn about cooperatives and electricity. Also, we participate in Youth Tour and take local high school juniors to the nation's capital to meet with lawmakers, enabling students to learn firsthand how our democracy works. REC also sends high students to Steamboat Springs, Colorado to enhance their leadership skills and understanding of the electric cooperatives. We have a scholarship program and give scholarships to ten high school seniors continuing their education. In addition to our youth programs, we also host a Youth Leadership Summit for all the schools in our service territory. However the decisions and criteria for determining these programs are based on member guidance and feedback.

We recognize the vital role Rural Electric plays in energizing our local economy. But to continue to innovate and more effectively serve the community, we rely on you, our members, to provide guidance. We value your perspective, and we cannot operate effectively and help our community thrive without you. Let your voice be heard and consider serving on one of REC's committees throughout the year.

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June 2017

Trustees and Officers

Gary Jones, *President, District 1*
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Contact Information

Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Mailing Address
P.O. Box 609
Lindsay, OK 73052

Physical Address
13942 Highway 76
Lindsay, OK 73052

405-756-3104 or 1-800-259-3504
To report an outage call
1-800-259-3504 or 1-855-399-2683
Visit REC at www.recok.coop
and like us on facebook



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Efficiency tips for shops and barns

There are many benefits to having an energy efficient outdoor shop or barn. Aside from saving energy, an efficient outdoor building can keep the environment around your structure healthy and safe; save money on your water bill; keep your animals happier and healthier; and save you from costly structural repairs.

Whether you are looking to build a new structure, or make changes to an existing structure, there are many ways you can make your outdoor shop or barn more

New lineman hired

Recently, REC hired Brandon McCaskill. McCaskill graduated high school in 2011 from Maysville and then went to Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology and enrolled in the High Voltage program. He graduated from OSU Institute of Technology in 2013. Prior to working at REC, McCaskill did powerline maintenance for two years in west Texas before working for Midwestern Electrical Contractors.

McCaskill enjoys spending time with his wife Kortney and his family.



Brandon McCaskill

energy efficient.

Follow these tips to achieve energy efficiency when building a new structure on your property:

- Location matters. If possible, carefully consider where you build your shop or barn. Consider drainage, sun exposure and how the building affects your neighbors.

- Start with a sustainable design plan. A sustainable design plan, according to the U.S. General Services Administration, includes the ability to use environmentally preferable products; protect and conserve water; enhance indoor environmental quality; and optimize operational and maintenance practices.

- If hiring a contractor to help build the structure, look for companies who specialize in “green” buildings and energy efficient practices.

- Choose efficient building methods. Pole barns offer reliable shelter without costly excavation, concrete foundations or general site disruption.

Follow these tips to make energy efficient upgrades to an existing structure:

- Replace indoor lighting with energy

efficient LED bulbs.

- Ensure existing structure has adequate insulation levels.

- Choose outdoor lighting designed to be energy efficient, and install motion detectors to reduce energy consumption when not in use.

- Plant trees around metal shed or barn. In colder climates, trees act as a windbreak, and in warmer climates, trees have a natural cooling effect reducing the temperatures by three to six degrees Fahrenheit.

- Consider adding a ceiling fan to circulate air. Typically, there is a two degree Fahrenheit temperature increase for every one-foot increase in ceiling height. A ceiling fan can help keep warm air close to the ground in the winter, and circulate fresher, cooler air in the summer. Not only will this help with energy costs, it will also help keep the air in the building from becoming hot and stagnant, which will keep harmful bacteria from building and will keep insects at bay.

Nominating Committee will meet in June

The 2017 Nominating Committee will meet in June to select candidates for Rural Electric Cooperative’s Board of Trustees. As defined in the Bylaws, the Nominating Committee selects at least three members—one from each district—as candidates for the Board. 120700

Three members from each of REC’s three board districts make up the Nominating Committee. A minimum of one representative from each district must be in attendance at the meeting to constitute a quorum and conduct business.

Guidelines for nominations and election of Trustees are contained in Article Three (3), Section Seven (7) of REC’s Bylaws. Copies of Bylaws are available upon request at REC’s headquarters.

Candidates for the Board of Trustees are

voted on at REC’s 78th Annual Meeting Saturday, October 7, 2017. The meeting will be held in REC’s Multi Purpose Center located north of Lindsay on State Highway 76.

Additional nominations may be submitted by petition with any 50 or more members of the Cooperative, acting together, in writing over their signatures. Any such nomination shall list the candidate’s name with necessary signatures and be filed with the Cooperative at least 120 days prior to the Annual Meeting of the Membership.

A list of candidates nominated by the Nominating Committee and by petition shall be filed in the office of the Cooperative and posted at the main entrance of the Cooperative’s headquarters in Lindsay, Oklahoma at least 90 days prior to the Annual Meeting.

Classified Advertisement

AUTOMOTIVE-

FOR SALE: 2005 Honda Elite 80cc scooter, 200,500 gentle adult miles, 100 mpg, always garage kept, \$1,300. PH: 580-223-2988.

FARM EQUIPMENT-

FOR SALE: John Deere 466 Round Baler. Makes 4 x 5 or 4 x 6 bales. Field ready, very good baler. PH: 405-756-3842 or 405-756-6250.

LIVESTOCK & PETS-

FOR SALE: Dorper 4H/FFA club lambs, top blood lines. PH: 580-658-2985.

FOR SALE: Great Pyrenees puppies, re-home fee \$150. PH: 405-779-8449.

RECREATIONAL-

FOR SALE: 1993 Timber Creek 35' 5th wheel trailer with one slide out and washer and dryer. PH: 405-756-4409.

REAL ESTATE-

FOR SALE OR TRADE: 40 acres in Maysville with two barns and two houses. PH: 405-473-3318.

FOR SALE: 4 bdrm, 2 bath home with remodeled kitchen, large center island and XL laundry room. Remodeled bathrooms,

Account number worth \$10 bill credit

Locate your account number in 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 yours, contact REC by the 10th of the month and we will credit your account. Only the member assigned that number is eligible for the prize. If you don't know your account number, it can be located on your electric bill.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Periodically inspect your dryer vent to ensure it is not blocked. This will save energy and may prevent a fire. Manufacturers recommend using rigid venting material - not plastic vents that may collapse and cause blockages. Learn more at www.energy.gov

New windows, HVAC, doors, hot water tank and insulation in attic. Newly added game room with wet bar and HVAC unit. Attached 3 car carport and wrap around porch, detached 18x25 garage with carport and older barn. Property includes operational well for water and rural water. PH:405-623-5991.

MISCELLANEOUS-

FOR SALE: Rustic western style, wooden dining table with six padded chairs, \$450. PH: 405-613-8840.

FOR SALE: 2 corrugated half-moon style tin horns, 11.5 ft. x 16 in., southeast of Ardmore, make reasonable offer. PH: 580-223-2988.

Linemen complete Journeyman Certificate



Linemen Jerry Moore and Keith Hailey recently completed their Journeyman certificates with the Northwestern Linemen College. The program consists of four sections with 10 units per section and completion of 6,240 hours of on-the-job training.

Local Co-op Connection Card Deals

Backroads Boutique, Lindsay -

5% off everything excluding special order and sale items

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

Chickasha Diesel Services, Chickasha -

\$50 off any big diesel oil change

Edwards Canvas, Pauls Valley - 5% Off

Jenny's Pics Photography, Lindsay -

10% Off \$50 or More Purchase of Pictures

Lindsay Tire and Lube, Lindsay -

\$5 Off Any Full Service Oil Change;

M & M Furniture, Chickasha -

10% Off Any Purchase

Mazzio's Italian Eatery, Purcell -

10% Off Purchase

Photos by Ginger, Pauls Valley -

1 Free 8x10 Print With First Order (\$25 Minimum)

The Leopard Lasso, Wynnewood -

10% Off Purchase

4 Seat Saddles, Boots and Hats -

10% Off \$100 or More, or 5% Off Repairs

Western Fuel Co., Maysville -

2 Cents Off Per Gallon of Propane on a Minimum of 125 Gallons. Cash Sales Only. (No Other Discounts Allowed)

Pharmacy Discounts -

Check out the discounts available using your Co-op Connections Card at participating pharmacies throughout our area. For a complete list of pharmacies, visit REC's website to see if your pharmacy is offering discounts to Co-op Connections Card holders.