

May 2017

Hot Watts

Published monthly by Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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Energy Efficiency
Tip of the Month

Keep warm summer air outside where it belongs! Add caulk or weatherstripping to seal air leaks around leaky doors and windows.

Source: U.S Department of Energy

Congratulations!

Sam Casteel is our online survey winner.



Offices Closed

CHEC offices will be closed May 29, 2017 in observance of Memorial Day.

CHEC Honors Youth Tour Finalist

The 2017 Youth Tour essay contest finalists were honored at a banquet on April 4, 2017, at the Kiamichi Technology Center in Stigler. The annual event, hosted by CHEC, recognizes four students whose written essays earned them an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., this summer.

The finalists competed with students from fourteen area schools, and each were required to write an essay on the topic: "What do you find most interesting about rural electric cooperatives?" From the essays entered, judges selected the four finalists.

The trip will begin on June 9, 2017, when they join 70 other students from across Oklahoma for a "Get Acquainted Banquet" in Oklahoma City. The delegates will board a plane the following morning and fly to Washington, D.C., to embark on an educational and fun-filled week.

This unique trip will give the students an opportunity to see history come alive as they explore the museums, memorials, and monuments. The students will tour the Capitol, will join Oklahoma's congressional delegation for breakfast, and will enjoy many other points of interest.

CHEC is pleased to announce these students who will represent the Cooperative for the 2017 Youth Tour: Abigail Deardorff of Webbers Falls High School, daughter of Clayton and Shelly Patterson; Bethany Bryce of Stigler High School, daughter of Amanda Altstatt and Tommy Joe Bryce; Harleigh Sharp of Muldrow High School, daughter of Garry and Misty Sharp; and Matthew Blaylock of McCurtain High School, son of Mark and Janna Blaylock.

Teachers of the winning students this year are: Lisa Ward from Webbers Falls High School, Courtney Henson from Stigler High School, Donna Brewer from Muldrow High School, and Abigail Taylor from McCurtain High School. We extend a special thank you to all the teachers, staff, and administration for participating and supporting the Youth Tour program this year.

If you would like more information about Youth Tour, please contact Donna Rhodes at 918-775-2211 or visit our website at www.cooksonhills.com.



Left to right: Abigail Deardorff, Bethany Bryce, Matthew Blaylock, and Harleigh Sharp.

Photo by Juli Orme



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Felicia Williams, *Editor*
E-Mail: fwilliams@cooksonhills.com

Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc. is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



If You Find Your Account Number Hidden in This Issue of the Hot Watts, You'll Receive a \$25 Credit on Your Electric Bill

Unclaimed Capital Credit Checks

The names listed below are member accounts that have capital credit refund checks available to them. The owners of these checks received service from CHEC and were issued a check which was returned by the postal service as undeliverable or were never cashed. If your name appears on the list or if you are the surviving heir of a name listed below, please contact CHEC about the capital credit refund check. Below is an alphabetical listing of names (A-Hal). The second half will appear in the June issue of the Hot Watts. If you have any questions about capital credits, please contact CHEC at 800-328-2368.

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AHART, BARBARA J.
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ALEXANDER, MARCIE
ALEXANDER, VICKIE L.
ALLEN, ALICE F.
ALLEN, ERIC
ALLEN, ROBERT L.
ALLISON, ROBERT
ALLTEL
ALUMBAUGH, MAX L.
AMERICAN TEL & TEL CO.
AMON, RUSTY L.
ANDERSEN, KENNETH L.
ANDERSON, EULICE E.
ANDERSON, FRANK E.
ANDERSON, JACK W.
ANDERSON, ROBERT D.
ANDERSON, ROBERT R. JR.
ANDERSON, WARREN W.
ANDREWS, BRET W.
ANDREWS, DAN
ANGLE, PRESTON
ANZLOVAR, DUKE
APPLEGATE, EUGENE
ARMER, KIM A.
ARMSTRONG, ODELL
ARNANSON, THOMAS G.
ARNETTE, VICKY R.
ARY, DONNIE
ARY, JERRY
ARY, O. B.
ARY, RICHARD
ARY, TONY
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BARGER, DWAYNE D.
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BARLOW, R. S.
BARNES, CANDIS
BARNES, DON
BARNES, JACKIE
BARNES, JACKIE L.
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BARNES, ORVIL R.
BARNES, TERRY E.
BARNES, ZELMA
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BARNHILL, HELEN R.
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BARRETT, CINDY
BARRETT, MICHAEL
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BARRICK, FRED
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BASS, GARY W.
BATES, APRIL D.
BATES, BYRON
BATES, JACK
BATES, ROBERT D.
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ECKHARDT, RUTH A.
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EDWARDS, CURTIS
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ELLIS, MARK
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ERWIN, LEON
ERWIN, NED
ERWIN, TOM
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EVANS, KAREN

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FLOYD, TOMMY Y.
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FOREMAN, RAYMOND
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FRANKLAND, MICHAEL R.
FRANKLIN, EDDIE
FRANKLIN, ERIC
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FRAZIER, JESS
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FREEMAN, RICHARD
FREEMAN, WILLIAM V.
FRIESEN, JON H.
FRIGGERI, RON
FROST, BOBBY L.
FRY, THOMAS A.
FRYE, BETTY F.
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FULLER, BRYAN D.

FULLER, DENNIS
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GABLE, ELLA
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GANN, SAM R.
GANS HIGH SCHOOL
GARDENHIRE, DANNY
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GATEWOOD, DOROTHY
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GHOLSTON, JAKE
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GIPSON, POLLY A.
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GIST, B. E.
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GLOVER, MAGGIE L.
GOAD, CHUCK W.
GOATS, BURL
GODWIN, J. R.
GOFF, S. C.
GOFORTH, MAURICE C.
GOODE, REEL J.
GOODMAN, RICHARD
GOODWIN, WATIE
GORDON, CHARLES T.
GORDON, HENRY
GORDON, TERRY P.
GOSNELL, JOE O.
GOSS, DAVID
GOSSETT, LUCILLE
GOTT, SHERRY A.
GRAVITT, PHILO
GREBE, ROBERT J.
GREEN, AMANDA
GREEN, BOBBY
GREEN, CHARLIE C.
GREEN, DENIE
GREEN, EARL E.
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GREGORY, TANYA
GREGSTON, G. D.
GRIMES, STELLA
GRIMES, TOMI
GRIMMETT, TURNER
GRISHAM, RICHARD
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GRUBBS, CRYSTAL
GRYDER, DONALD E. JR.
GUTHRIE, GYNDA
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HALE, BILLY C.
HALE, MILTON
HALE, ROY J.
HALE, WILLIAM H.
HALEY, EVETTS

Jason Blalock to Volunteer in Guatemala

The Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives (OAEC) has selected a group of volunteer linemen to electrify a remote village in the northwestern part of Guatemala this coming October. One of the team members selected is CHEC's own Jason Blalock.

"We are proud to send an ambassador from our home co-op to help bring electricity to those who have not been as fortunate as we have," says CHEC's General Manager Kendall Beck. "It speaks to the value of the cooperative difference that transcends borders."

The announcement comes after a successful electrification project that took place in the country of Bolivia in the year of 2016, when volunteers from Oklahoma and Missouri's electric cooperatives brought electricity to two Amazonian villages.

"Bringing electricity to remote areas in developing countries takes electric cooperatives back to their roots," says OAEC General Managers Chris Meyers. "It reinforces our commitment to improve the quality of life for local communities in our home and abroad."

The OAEC International Committee, comprised of trustees from the statewide association, selected a team of 13 volunteers and designated three alternates for the upcoming trip.

"We are grateful for the overwhelming response of Oklahoma co-op linemen who are willing to leave their homes for an extended period of time to empower far-away communities," says International Committee Chairman Jimmy Taylor. "Access to electricity will bring economic empowerment, better access to health care and enhanced safety for these villagers. It's a life-changing gift."

The electrification project will be coordinated through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's (NRECA) philanthropic arm, NRECA International Foundation. The project site is located in the department (state) of Alta Verapaz, in northwest Guatemala. The name of the isolated village is Chiis. The project will provide electricity to nearly 45 homes and will consist of 2.8 km of primary line (approximately 1.74 miles) and 2 km of secondary line (1.2 miles). The village of Chiis is isolated and economically vulnerable and mainly produces beans and corn for self-consumption.

The following volunteers were selected to serve on the project: Jason Blalock (Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative, Stigler-Okla.), Jason Childress (East Central Oklahoma Electric Cooperative, Okmulgee-Okla.), Jake Collier (Northwestern Electric Cooperative, Woodward-Okla.), Daniel Franco (Canadian Valley Electric Cooperative, Seminole-Okla.), Darren Frazier (Choctaw Electric Cooperative, Hugo-Okla.), Heath Gossen (CKenergy Electric Cooperative, Binger-Okla.), Team Leader Damon Lester (Indian Electric Cooperative, Cleveland-Okla.), Tim Jenlink (Alfalfa Electric Cooperative, Cherokee-Okla.), Rodney Johnson (Cimarron Electric Cooperative, Kingfisher-Okla.), Clint Mobley (Oklahoma Electric Cooperative, Norman-Okla.), Andrew Pool (Central Electric Cooperative, Stillwater-Okla.), Tyson Potter (Cotton Electric Cooperative, Walters, Okla.), and David Sheets (TCEC, Hooker-Okla.)

Alternates are Jeremy Shaffer (Kiamichi Electric Cooperative, Wilburton-Okla.), Matt Montgomery (Northeast Oklahoma 2046300 Electric Cooperative, Vinita-Okla.), and Mick Hart (Cimarron Electric Cooperative, Kingfisher-Okla.).

Oklahoma's electric cooperatives have established a 501(c)3 not-for-profit, The Oklahoma Energy Trails Foundation, to support this cause. All contributions are tax-deductible. To learn more, visit: <http://tinyurl.com/energytrails>.

Energy Trails 2017



Guatemala Team



Team Leader
DAMON LESTER
Indian Electric



DAVID SHEETS
TCEC



ANDREW POOL
Central Electric



JAKE COLLIER
Northwestern Electric



CLINT MOBLEY
Oklahoma Electric



DANIEL FRANCO
Canadian Valley Electric



DARREN FRAZIER
Choctaw Electric



HEATH GOSSEN
CKenergy Electric



JASON BLALOCK
Cookson Hills Electric



RODNEY JOHNSON
Cimarron Electric



TYSON POTTER
Cotton Electric



TIM JENLINK
Alfalfa Electric



JASON CHILDRESS
East Central Electric



JEREMY SHAFFER
Kiamichi Electric
1st Alternate



MATT MONTGOMERY
Northeast Oklahoma Electric
2nd Alternate



MICK HART
Cimarron Electric
3rd Alternate



ELECTRIC CO-OPS
are committed to
keeping members
and employees **SAFE.**

May is National
Electrical Safety Month

plug into safety

