

THE CIRCUIT!

September 2018

A publication for our Members
in Atoka•Bryan•Choctaw
Coal•Johnston Counties



79th Annual Meeting Was A Success



The 79th Annual Meeting of the Membership held on Tuesday, August 7th, was a great success. With 466 registered Members in attendance and a host of guests, it proved to be the largest Annual Meeting in the last decade. This year, a new format was utilized that allowed for more Members to attend and participate. Folks were able to arrive at 2:00 p.m. and register for the door prizes along with casting a vote for the

candidate of their choice! Also new this year, you did not have to be present to win for the door prizes. All of these aspects of the new format were published in the Annual Meeting Insert that Members received in the mail.

The Bryan County 4-H served refreshments during the day which consisted of ice cream and soda. KLBC was there from 2:00-4:00 doing a live remote and giving Members even more chances to win prizes at their booth!

Districts 1, 2 and 3 were up for re-election. Voting Members chose from candidates in districts 1 and 3. District 2 did not have any opponents running for the seat.

According to the Southeastern Electric bylaws, in order for there to be an election with certified results, a quorum must be present. A quorum is present when 5% of the Membership, in this case 536 Members, are in attendance. As mentioned above, the meeting was a bit short of a quorum with the 466 registered Members.

Entertainment this year was Emalea Hudgens and Tanner Young. Both played the acoustic guitar and sang for the crowd. At 6:30, the business portion of the meeting began followed by everyone's favorite-door prizes!



Entertainer Emalea Hudgens

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Pay Your SEC Bill Online

You can pay your electric utility bill online by visiting our website at www.se-coop.com!

Just click the link at the top right of the page to be taken to the bill payment area. You will need your account number handy to enter into the required field.

If you have not been set up for online bill pay, please call our offices today at 580-745-9463 to make sure we have the info you will need to log-in and use this handy feature!



Beat the Extreme Heat

During periods of extreme heat, hot weather mixed with outdoor activities can lead to dangerous situations. According to the CDC, people can suffer heat-related illness when their bodies are unable to properly cool themselves. During extreme heat, follow these guidelines to protect yourself and your loved ones.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



STAY INFORMED: Check local news for extreme heat alerts.



STAY COOL: If you do not have access to an air-conditioned space, visit a shopping mall or public library for a few hours.



STAY HYDRATED/DRESS APPROPRIATELY: Drink fluids regularly, regardless of activity level. Wear lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothing.



DON'T leave anyone in a closed, parked vehicle.



DO check on elderly friends and neighbors.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Meeting (cont.)

James Fox, SEC's General Manager, addressed the crowd telling them how thankful and proud he was to be the Manager for such a great Cooperative organization and such a wonderful Membership. He reminded everyone that his door is always open at the Co-op and invited anyone to come by who would



KLBC's Kristi Rothrock and SEC Member Rhonda Richardson winning a gift card.

like to visit and learn more about the Cooperative difference.

SEC would like to thank all of our Members who took the time out of their day to come spend it with us. We hope you enjoyed the new come-and-go format along with the other new aspects of the day.***

Modern Technology & Efficiency



If you are struck by the amount of screens, remotes, gaming controls, charging stations and cords that have become fixtures in your home, you are not alone. The typical American family is well connected and owns a variety of electronic devices. According to the PEW Research Institute, 95% of U.S. families have a cell phone and 77% of Americans own a smart phone. Nearly 80% of adults own a laptop or desktop computer, while approximately half own tablets.

Consumer electronics coupled with the growing array

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Technology (cont.)

of smart home appliances and technology have slowly but steadily changed our homes and lifestyles. The increased reliance on our many devices has new implications for home energy use and efficiency.

So how can we save energy when we are using more electronic devices than ever before? The answer may lie with some of those same electronic devices that have become indispensable to modern living. In many cases, energy savings is a touchscreen away as more apps enable you to monitor energy use.

From the convenience of your mobile device, smart technologies can maximize your ability to manage electricity use across several platforms—controlling your thermostat, appliances, water heater, home electronics and other devices. One of the easiest ways to make an impact on energy efficiency is with a smart thermostat, like Nest models. For example, program your thermostat for weekday and weekend schedules so you are not wasting energy when no one is home. Check and adjust the program periodically to keep pace with changes in household routines.

You can also ensure efficiency by purchasing ENERGY STAR-certified appliances. Remember that SEC offers a rebate on Energy Star certified window units! Check out the website for more information.

Many new appliances include smart-technology features such as refrigerators that can tell you when maintenance is required

or when a door has been left open. New washers, dryers and dishwashers allow you to program when you want the load to start. This means you can program your task for off-peak energy hours, like during our Beat the Peak summer program.



Of course there are the time-tested “old school” methods of energy efficiency that can be applied to the myriad of household electronic devices and screens. Computers, printers, phones and gaming consoles are notorious “vampire power” users, meaning they drain energy when not in use. If items can be turned off without disrupting your lifestyle, consider plugging them into a power strip that can be turned on and off or placed on a timer.

Regardless of your level of technical expertise with electronic devices, Southeastern Electric can provide guidance on energy savings based on your account information, energy use, local weather patterns and additional factors unique to your community. Give us a call today, 580-745-9463 and let us help you!*