

SIERRA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

MEMBER NEWSLETTER April, 2010

“Life is what you make it. Always has been, always will be.” – Grandma Moses



I feel that the 69th Annual Meeting of Sierra Electric was an unqualified success! It was good to meet each of you and I appreciate each of you taking time to participate in *your* Annual Meeting. Friendships were renewed, door prizes distributed, and all in attendance enjoyed a great meal provided by the Hot Springs High School Junior ROTC and I think they did a great job. As you may imagine, the process for putting on the Annual Meeting begins some months ahead and involves the efforts of many people. The Board and I especially appreciate the members who comprise the Nominating Committee and the Election and Credentials Committee. These great volunteers spend a good deal of time performing their duties and even must travel to committee meetings prior to the Annual Meeting. I would like also to extend *kudos* to the staff and employees of Sierra for their superb job in helping to make the meeting so successful.

As President Bason mentioned at the meeting, Sierra’s Board of Trustees is looking for your participation in the implementation of “Operation Round Up”. The purpose of the program is to provide additional funding for Sierra Electric’s Scholarship Fund.

Participation in “Operation Round Up” is ***strictly voluntary*** and is just what the name implies. If a member decides to participate, each month Sierra Electric would simply “round up” their electric bill to the next highest dollar. For example, if your bill were \$55.55, it would be rounded up to \$56.00, meaning your contribution for that month would be 45 cents. For the average member, the annual cost would be about \$6.00.

Sierra Electric will be sending additional information with your bill on how you can enroll and sign up for this program. There are no minimum enrollment periods and members can drop their enrollment at any time.

Sierra’s Education Foundation provides scholarships to area high school students who are members of the cooperative and are planning to attend a college in New Mexico. As of 2009, Sierra has awarded \$17,300 to local students so we would encourage all members to participate as these young people are the **FUTURE OF OUR COUNTRY.**

69th Annual Membership Meeting A Success!

262 members of Sierra Electric Cooperative, Inc. registered for the 2010 Annual Membership Meeting and listened to guest speaker, reports from the Board of Trustees, General Manager and participated in three trustee elections.

The results of the election of trustees are as follows:

District 2: Lee Wood

District 2: Walter Toothman

District 3: Darryl Sullivan

Thank you for your vote, voice and participation in making 2010 Sierra Electric Annual Meeting a success.

SIERRA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE LONG ROPE SAFETY ATTITUDE AWARD SIERRA'S 2009 RECIPIENT IS CHARLES FORD.

This award is dedicated to all linemen in New Mexico that have been killed or injured on the job. The objective is to give recognition to a person at each co-op that is a leader in safety and walks the walk.

Nominees have the following behavior and attitude:

- Safety is part of the job- a priority
- Safety rules are necessary
- Never takes short-cuts
- Good Listener
- Leads by example
- Good teacher
- Open to change
- Not affected by peer pressure
- Always looking for safer ways to do things
- Participates in safety meetings

Some comments by his peers:

“He is always looking out for change. Safety is always a priority. He also is very dependable.”

As Safety Coordinator at Sierra, he recently helped Sierra achieve national recognition by being safety accredited through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.