

Northwestern Electric News

Inside

Rural firefighters.....2
 Youth contests.....3
 Recipe.....3
 November storms.....4
 Cash for college.....4

Vol. 67 Number 3

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

January 2016

NWEC schedules board elections for February

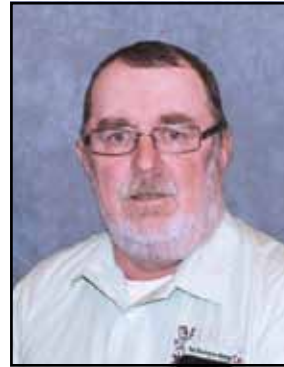
Northwestern Electric has scheduled three board member elections for February. The districts are two, four and six, and are highlighted on the map pictured below.

District 2, represented by Clair Craighead, will meet at NWEC's Medallion Room in Woodward on Tuesday, Feb. 9. The District 4 meeting is Thursday evening, Feb. 11, at the Sharon United Methodist Church. John Bruce, Jr. is the current director. Wayne Hall has set the District 6 meeting for Monday, Feb. 22, at the Quinlan Methodist Church.

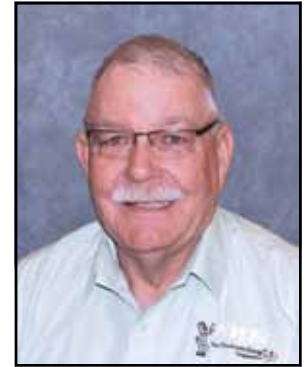
According to Tyson Littau, Northwestern's CEO, all three directors plan to file for re-election. The portion of the Bylaws pertaining to director nominations and elections was published in the December 2015 Northwestern Electric News. Interested candidates should contact Tyson Littau or Rhonda McMakin at the Woodward office for complete details on filing. The filing period is



Clair Craighead



John Bruce, Jr.



Wayne Hall

open during the month of January. To announce their intentions to run in the February newsletter, candidates need to contact NWEC before Jan. 8.

Clair Craighead is a rancher in the Woodward area and is involved with several ag related organizations. His wife, Stephanie, is a certified public accountant. Clair is seeking his eighth term on the board.

John Bruce, Jr. and his wife, Rane, farm and ranch in the Sharon community. He serves as NWEC's representative

on the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives' board. John is seeking his tenth term as a director.

Wayne Hall is seeking his third term as the District 6 representative. He and his wife, Colleen, farm and ranch in the Quinlan area.

The purpose of the meetings is to elect a director to serve a three-year term on the board of Northwestern Electric and report on information concerning the operations of the business. The meetings are also an excellent time for members to ask questions since several staff members and directors will be present.

Each of the meetings begin with a light meal at 6 p.m., followed by the business meeting at 6:30. The three district meetings and their locations are:

District 2

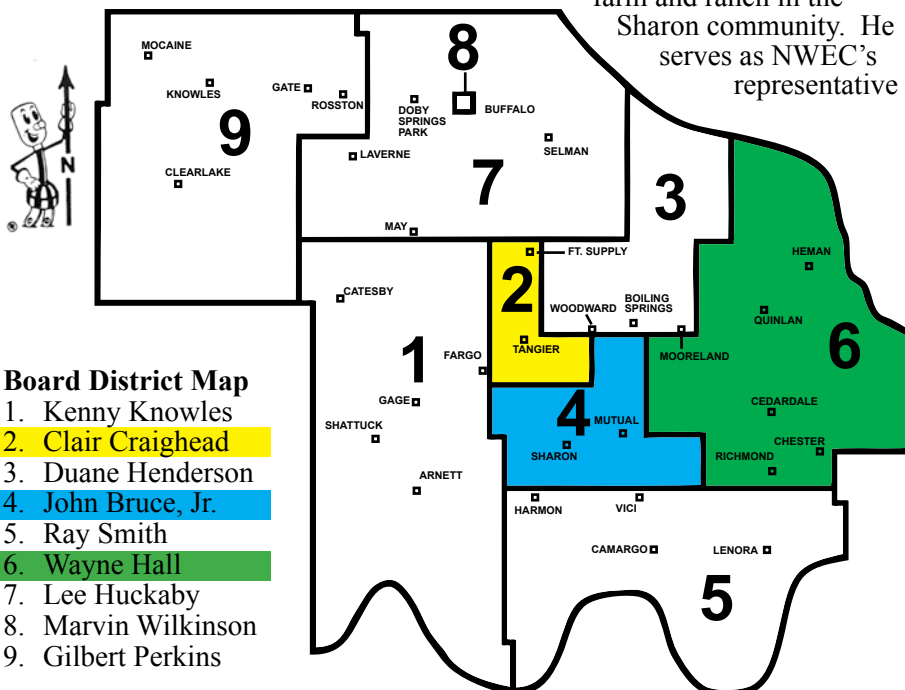
Tuesday, Feb. 9, 2016
 Meal at 6 p.m. - Meeting at 6:30 p.m.
 NWEC's Medallion Room

District 4

Thursday, Feb. 11, 2016
 Meal at 6 p.m. - Meeting at 6:30 p.m.
 Sharon United Methodist Church

District 6

Monday, Feb. 22, 2016
 Meal at 6 p.m. - Meeting at 6:30 p.m.
 Quinlan Methodist Church



**NORTHWESTERN
ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE, INC.**

Woodward, Oklahoma
Operating In
Beaver, Dewey, Ellis, Harper,
Major, Woods and Woodward
Counties in Oklahoma

TYSON LITTAU
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Kenny Knowles, Pres. Arnett
Ray Smith, Vice-Pres. Taloga
John Bruce, Jr., Sec.-Treas. Sharon
Marvin Wilkinson Buffalo
Clair Craighead Woodward
Wayne Hall Mooreland
Duane Henderson Mooreland
Lee Huckaby Selman
Gilbert Perkins Gate

Jonna Hensley Editor
Michael W. Mitchel Attorney

**IN CASE OF TROUBLE CALL:
24 HOUR EMERGENCY
1-877-9NOPOWER
877.966.7693**

If no answer call:
John Kirkwood 580.866.3245
Bob Appell 580.273.4088

NOTICE

A copy of NWEC Bylaws will be made available for any member upon request.

**Web page: www.nwecok.coop
E-mail: nwec@nwecok.coop**

NWEC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call 866.632.9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax 202.690.7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.



Representatives from area fire departments received a \$1,000 donation each from Northwestern Electric during a banquet held in their honor. Accepting the checks on behalf of the departments in their communities are (back row) David Trimble, Vici; Troy DeWitt, Gate; Ted Bozarth, Laverne; Thad Murphy, May; Terry Shuman, Rosston; Kody Whitley, Taloga; (third row) Roger Robinson, Camargo; Bill Phillips, Sharon; Tom Marcum, Mooreland; Donny Yauk, Buffalo; Shane Sander, Seiling; (second row) Leslie Feerer, Fargo; Kevin Mitchell, Mutual; Michael Petty, Ft. Supply; Charlie Starbuck, Slapout; Pebbles Luddington, Freedom; (front row) Monte Stahlman, Fargo; Steve Day, Woodward; J. D. Jackson, Harmon; Sheri Nickel, Shattuck; and Mike McIlvain, Selman. The rural fire departments depend on donations, grants and fundraisers to purchase necessary equipment. Holding a banquet and giving a donation is Northwestern Electric's way of saying thank you in person and showing appreciation for the service the fire departments offer our members.

October 2015 Operating Report

	2014	2015
Revenue - Billing	2,799,144	2,310,107
Cost of Power	1,803,869	1,395,767
Miles of Lines	4,966	4,982
Members Connected	11,892	11,974
Density per Mile	2.39	2.40
Average Member KWH	2,256	2,050
Average Bill	235	193
KWH Purchased	27,611,085	25,222,849
KWH Sold	26,833,155	24,550,440
Income per Mile	567	466
Expense per Mile	562	496

Northwestern Electric sponsors annual youth contests

Northwestern Electric will send five students to Energy Camp at Canyon Camp in Hinton, Okla., May 31-Jun. 3, 2016. While at camp, the students will form a coke and candy cooperative, climb a utility pole, watch safety demonstrations, and tour a generation plant, among many other exciting activities.

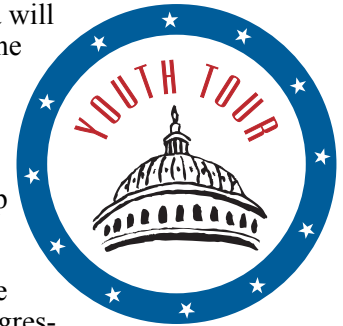


Students who wish to enter the contest must meet the following criteria:

- 1) Students must be in the 8th grade.
- 2) Submit an essay of 200 words or less on "What I would miss the most without electricity and why."
- 3) Include a cover sheet with your name, your parents' or legal guardian's name, home address, telephone number, and name of your school.
- 4) Mail the essay and cover sheet to:
 Jonna Hensley
 Youth Tour Coordinator
 Northwestern Electric Cooperative
 P.O. Box 2707
 Woodward, OK 73802-2707

Entry deadline is March 25, 2016.

Two students from this area will win all-expense-paid trips to the nation's capital, June 10-16, 2016, and two others will win \$500 scholarships and the opportunity to participate in the Touchstone Energy Leadership Summit.



The thrill packed days in Washington, D.C., will include lunch with the Oklahoma Congressional Delegation, tour of Mount Vernon, a boat trip on the Potomac River, and many other points of interest.

Northwestern Electric representatives will select the winners for the contest from students who take a written test over materials furnished by Northwestern Electric about rural electrification. (18694001)

Based on the test scores, the top four students will compete in a final judging which will be held at Northwestern Electric's headquarters in Woodward. A panel of judges will select two students for the trip based on subject knowledge, originality, appearance and personality.

NWEC representatives will visit with interested juniors at their schools during January and February. For more information, contact the youth tour coordinator, Jonna Hensley, at 256.7425 or 800.375.7423.

Hidden account number contest

Congratulations goes to Robert Dearing for recognizing his account number in last month's newsletter. The other number belonged to Billy Abbott.

We have hidden two account numbers somewhere in the articles in this newsletter. The numbers will always be enclosed in parentheses and will look similar to this example (XXXXXX).

If you recognize your account number, all you have to do is give us a call on or before the 8th of the current month and we'll give you a credit on your bill for the amount stated.

This month's numbers are worth \$25 each. Happy hunting!

Country cooking

Easy Enchilada Soup

- 3 cans chicken broth**
- 2 cans stewed tomatoes**
- 1 can whole kernel corn with juice**
- 2 cans black beans (drained & rinsed)**
- 2 cans (10 oz.) canned chicken**
- 2 envelopes enchilada sauce mix**



Combine all ingredients in a large pot and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for 20 minutes.

Serve over crushed tortilla chips and top with cheddar cheese, sour cream and chives.

For an extra spicy soup, add picante sauce and cayenne pepper.

High winds, tornadoes, earthquakes and ice

Where else but in Oklahoma can you experience all four in the same month?

Have you ever heard anyone say if you don't like the weather in Oklahoma just wait 24 hours and it will change? Northwest Oklahomans may believe that statement to be somewhat true after experiencing high winds, tornadoes and ice in less than a three-week span. And although they aren't weather related, some residents felt a couple of small earthquakes during the same time period.

Starting on Nov. 11, high winds knocked off the power at the Speer-more substation and took down some lines south of Woodward.

Less than a week later on Nov. 16, tornadoes ripped through the western portion of our service territory taking down over 120 poles. NWECC's crews along with five contract crews worked well past midnight on the 17th to restore power.

That same week, weather forecasters began predicting a major ice storm for our area. Round one of freezing rain and ice began Thanksgiving day causing outages mainly in the Vici and Camargo areas. Our crews were able to get the power back on by late the next evening.

Then came round two. Over the weekend, the linemen battled tree limbs and ice in Woodward County and the Vici area. More than 700

members were without power and the number doubled overnight. Although they were able to make some progress, the linemen knew the worst was yet to come.

Just as expected, outage numbers increased during the day on Monday as the ice began melting off the lines and tree limbs. By early afternoon, almost half of NWECC's system was without power.

With the help of crews from Tri-County Electric Cooperative and two contractors, most of the storm damage had been repaired and the power was back on by late Wednesday evening.

Two small magnitude earthquakes shook things up a little for residents living in the Mooreland area. Fortunately for us, the earthquakes on Nov. 25 and Nov. 29 didn't cause any damage to NWECC's system.



The Thanksgiving holiday ice storm coated power lines with up to an inch of ice. It doesn't take much ice to add hundreds of pounds to spans of wires causing them to break. Photo: Brian Snider.

The board, staff and employees would like to thank all of our members for your patience and understanding, prayers, and words of encouragement during the outages. In all kinds of weather, we work for you.

Attention seniors! Apply now to get cash for college

Northwestern Electric is pleased to announce the opportunity for graduating seniors to apply for the Fanning-Fussell Scholarship. NWECC's scholarship committee will award scholarships in the amount of \$500 per semester each to five individuals pursuing a four-year university or college academic degree program or a two-year associate degree or technical institute certificate program. The scholarship is for one year and can only be used for tuition, books, and room and board.

To be eligible, students must be a senior in one of the high schools in Northwestern Electric's service territory and reside in a household served by NWECC. (996975001)

For a complete list of eligibility requirements and an application, contact Jonna Hensley at 580.256.7425 or 800.375.7423. You can also access the information at www.nwecok.coop under the Youth Programs tab. The deadline for applications is Friday, Feb. 5, 2016.

