



TVEC / BOB JOHNSON / FLOYD CHOICE / ELIZABETH GUTIERREZ

TVEC Annual Meeting Sets Another Record

It was another record turnout for Trinity Valley Electric Cooperative's 2017 annual meeting, held October 12 at the Canton Civic Center.

More than 700 members and guests enjoyed barbecue sandwiches, perusing door prizes and various information booths before the meeting began. TVEC employees were on hand to answer questions in several areas including technology, safety and public relations efforts.

TVEC attorney John Mosley served as master of ceremonies, welcoming many special guests, military veterans and

government officials in attendance.

Boy Scout Troop 332 opened the meeting with a posting of the colors and pledge of allegiance, followed by a video presentation of the Star Spangled Banner that received a round of applause.

After the meeting was called to order by TVEC Board Chairman Howard Tillison, General Manager/CEO Jerry Boze took some time to recognize the dedicated workforce at the company.

"It is a privilege and honor to work alongside these folks every day and they do a marvelous job," Boze said. "No business can be any good if they don't have good employees and we are proud of ours, we hope you are as well."

Boze went on to talk about the company's response to the tornado outbreak of April 29.

"Basically, it turned a lot of lives upside down and I can tell you that in the history of the co-op this is the worst disaster we have experienced," he said. "But we have a disaster recovery plan, and when that happens everything kicks into gear and every employee in every department knows what they need to do. They did a marvelous job."

Boze then thanked TVEC members for their support and patience as work was underway to restore power.



TVEC Lineman Josh Lathem answers questions for members before the 2017 Annual Member Meeting October 12 at the Canton Civic Center.



TVEC General Manager/CEO Jerry Boze addresses the crowd.



Members of Boy Scout Troop 332 lead the Pledge of Allegiance to open the meeting.



More than 120 door prizes were awarded after the business meeting adjourned.

“We can’t thank you enough for the kindness shown to our employees during that time and the patience that members showed. Your appreciation means more to the employees than you may ever know,” Boze said.

TVEC Chief Operating Officer Tony Watson followed with a report on TVEC’s efforts in safety and reliability.

“Training is paramount to keeping everyone safe,” Watson said. “We have a comprehensive training program for both outside and inside personnel that is a continuous effort.”

Chief Communications Officer Jeff Lane provided updates on cyber security and grid security, and an overview of TVEC’s efforts to provide useful information and programs for people throughout the service area.

A report of the company’s financial information was given by Chief Financial officer Bryan Wood, noting that more than \$26 million in capital credits had been returned to TVEC members

since 2007.

Trey Rowe from TVEC’s auditing firm Bolinger, Segars, Gilbert & Moss gave the results of the company’s 2016 audit.

“Our audit report was a clean unmodified opinion,” Rowe said. “We found the records to be in good order. Overall the cooperative appears to be in good financial condition and we have no findings to report as a result of the audit.”

Rowe also presented the voting totals for the 2017 board election, with a total of 2,157 valid ballots received. Districts 1, 4 and 5 were on the ballot, with the incumbent board members running unopposed.

In district 1, Carolyn Minor received 1,723 votes. District 4 had 1,641 votes for Jo Ann Hanstrom. District 5 had 1,698 votes for Ed Reeve.

Following the meeting, a raffle was held for more than 120 door prizes, including bill credits, tools, televisions and small appliances.



TVEC members watch a video about the co-ops response to the tornado outbreak in Henderson and Van Zandt Counties on April 29.



Premier prizes awarded included a 55" LED television, won by Tony Martin.

Set the Table for Safety

WHETHER TESTING OUT A NEW DISH OR WHIPPING UP A FAMILY CLASSIC, THERE'S ONE recipe that should always be included on the menu during holiday season: safety. Follow this recipe to make sure the festivities create happy memories instead of danger.

Recipe for Kitchen Safety

INGREDIENTS

Clean oven, stovetop, vent hood and duct
Tidy refrigerator coils
Functioning smoke alarms
Fresh batteries

Working ground-fault circuit interrupters
Spotless appliances
Kitchen timer
Vigilance

DIRECTIONS

1. Prevent fires by making sure your oven and stovetop are clean and free of grease and dust. You also should clean the exhaust hood and duct over the stove. Lastly,

vacuum refrigerator coils every three months to prevent dirt buildup.

2. Never leave cooking unattended. You should not cook if you are sleepy or under the influence of alcohol. Children also should be closely supervised in the kitchen.

3. Use a kitchen timer to remind you that the stove or oven is on. It's easy to forget about something that's cooking, especially when you're entertaining guests. Make sure your dish doesn't become a fire hazard!

4. Keep all electrical appliances and their cords away from the sink and any heat sources. When the countertop is crowded with mixers, food processors and other appliances, it's easy to lose sight of a cord that has strayed into the water or over a flame.

5. Smoke alarms should be installed in the kitchen and in every bed-

room, outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home. For the best protection, smoke alarms should be interconnected so they all sound if one sounds.

6. Test the batteries in each smoke alarm every month, replace them at least once a year, and replace the units every 10 years.

7. Ground-fault circuit interrupters are electrical safety devices that shut off power to electrical circuits when they detect ground faults, which could shock or electrocute someone. GFCIs should be installed wherever electricity and water may come in contact, such as the kitchen. GFCIs also should be tested every month; visit esfi.org for testing instructions.

8. Enjoy! Being proactive about safety will give you peace of mind and allow you to enjoy your time with loved ones.



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MIVPIV | ISTOCK.COM

Veterans Day November 11

Trinity Valley Electric Co-op salutes
veterans for their service.



IRYNA MELNYK | ISTOCK.COM

Happy Thanksgiving

from Trinity Valley Electric Co-op.

Our offices will be closed Thursday
and Friday, November 23-24,
to celebrate the holiday.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH



MSHELDRAKE | ISTOCK.COM

Baked Mashed Sweet Potatoes

- 1¾ pounds russet potatoes
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1½ teaspoons salt
- 1 can (14.5 ounces) sweet potatoes, drained and mashed
- 4 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 3 slices bacon, cooked and crumbled
- ½ cup light sour cream
- ⅓ cup chicken broth
- ¼ teaspoon black pepper

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease a 9-inch square baking dish.
2. Boil potatoes with garlic until tender, then drain.
3. Add remaining ingredients and beat with mixer until blended.
4. Pour into baking dish. Bake uncovered for 20 minutes.

This recipe was a winner in the January 2011 *All Eyes on Potatoes* recipe contest. Submit your best pastry recipes to *Texas Co-op Power* by November 10 for a chance to win the *Breakfast Pastries* recipe contest. Visit texas.cooppower.com/contests for rules and details.

Find this and more delicious recipes online at **TEXASCOOPPOWER.COM**



YINYANG | ISTOCK.COM

Stuff the Turkey, Save Energy

THANKSGIVING IS A GREAT TIME OF YEAR TO BRING FRIENDS AND FAMILIES TOGETHER.

It also means spending time in the kitchen to prepare the traditional feast. Energy costs in the kitchen can total up to 15 percent of a home's energy use, so it's worth a bit of effort to learn how to use less energy while cooking.

Here are some tips to help keep your energy costs down during the holiday:

Keep the oven door closed. When you want to check on the progress of a dish cooking in your oven, use the light instead of the door. Every time the oven door is opened, the temperature inside is reduced by as much as 25 degrees, delaying the progress of the dish and, more importantly, costing more money to get that turkey perfectly cooked.

Check your oven temperature. A freestanding oven thermometer is a great way to check how hot your oven really gets. Many ovens' heat output varies slightly from the numbers on the dial or readout. By testing your oven temperature at several settings—325, 350, 375 and 400 degrees—you can find out if your oven runs hot or cool, and factor an extra 25 degrees or so into your cooking, if necessary. Always check your freestanding oven thermometer to verify the temperature so that you're not needlessly cranking up the heat on an already-hot oven!

Turn down the heat. Spending all day in the kitchen? If you've got the oven running and soup on the stove, you can probably turn the heat down a bit. The heat from your oven, not to mention dinner guests, should keep your home warmer than usual, and your furnace won't have to work as hard.

Clean your burners. If you've got an electric range, one great way to keep your stovetop cooking efficiently is to keep the reflectors under your burners grime-free. They can be a pain to clean, but regular maintenance can go a long way. You also can invest in better reflectors that decrease stovetop cooking times, which will save you energy (and money!) over time.

TIME TO FALL BACK!

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

ends at 2 a.m., Sunday, November 5.
Remember to set your clocks back one hour.



MARTIN WAHLBERG | ISTOCK.COM



Give friends and family the Best of Texas.

The Best of Typically Texas Cookbook features more than 700 best-loved recipes from two of our most popular cookbooks.

Now available at Trinity Valley Electric Cooperative office locations.
Come by and purchase your copy today!

Texas Division of Emergency Management

Hurricane Preparedness Guidelines Preparing for Hurricane Season: June 1- Nov. 30



Residents of Texas Gulf Coast **EVACUATION ZONES** should **BEGIN NOW** by making an evacuation plan, preparing an emergency kit and learning evacuation routes well in advance.

If you have a disability or medical needs, register in the State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR) online at <https://STEAR.dps.texas.gov> or by dialing 2-1-1. Gulf coast residents with additional needs (including those who are disabled or medically fragile) who live in evacuation zones and do not have friends or family to help in an evacuation should register in advance online at <https://STEAR.dps.texas.gov> or by dialing 2-1-1. Registration should be completed in advance of an emergency event. DO NOT WAIT, REGISTER NOW! Information collected is confidential.

If you need transportation, register in the State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR) online at <https://STEAR.dps.texas.gov> or by dialing 2-1-1. If you do not have a car or other vehicle, and you cannot get a ride with friends, neighbors or family, register **IN ADVANCE** for assisted transportation by dialing 2-1-1.

Evacuation zone information: If you are interested in registering and you want to find out whether you are living in an evacuation zone, dial 2-1-1 for information.

Hurricane Preparedness tips online:

Texas Division of Emergency Management Website: www.dps.texas.gov/dem
FEMA Website: www.Ready.gov
American Red Cross Website: www.redcross.org

Win \$25 Just for Reading

Somewhere, hidden on Pages 18-23, is a TVEC account number. Read closely. If the account number is yours, contact the Member Services Department by November 30 to receive a \$25 credit on your electric bill. Don't miss out—you could be a winner.



TRINITY VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Operating in Anderson, Dallas, Henderson, Hunt, Kaufman and Van Zandt counties

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Howard Tillison, Chairman, District 6
- Carolyn Minor, Vice Chairwoman, District 1
- Jo Ann Hanstrom, Secretary, District 4
- Jerry Priest, District 2
- Paul Weatherford, District 3
- Edward Reeve, District 5
- David Lang, District 7

GENERAL MANAGER/CEO

Jerry B. Boze

Kaufman District Headquarters

1800 E. Highway 243, Kaufman

Athens District Office

909 W. Larkin St., Athens

Cedar Creek District Office

1012 W. Main St., Ste. 102
Gun Barrel City

Wills Point District Office

582 N. Fourth St., Wills Point

Lobby Hours

Monday-Friday-8:15 a.m.-4:45 p.m.



Contact Us

For information during office hours and outages after hours

CALL US

(972) 932-2214 local or
1-800-766-9576 toll-free

24-HOUR AUTOMATED ASSISTANCE

1-800-720-3584

24-HOUR OUTAGE REPORTING

1-800-967-9324

FIND US ON THE WEB AT
tvec.net



One Man’s Treasure Helps Change Futures for Former Inmates

While it may not be completely true that “the clothes make the man,” having a decent set of clothes can make a man’s future prospects brighten considerably. That is the mission of One Man’s Treasure, a resource for recently incarcerated men providing clothing that can be beneficial in many ways.

“The state provides pants and a shirt, \$100 and a bus ticket and not much else,” said Executive Director Annette Jenkins. “And by providing these guys with just some decent clothes they are much better able to deal with life after prison.”

The charity provided statistics showing that after three years, their clients had a recidivism (return to prison) rate of only 13%, compared to 23-44% statewide. 30055179001

“It is only one part of it, but it means a lot to be able to dress normally,” she said. “You see these who are just released and trying to put their life back together and they don’t even have a coat or another set of clothes. Some of them have no support structure and no resources so it is pretty hard not to return to what they knew before.”



One Man’s Treasure
\$4,000

One Man’s Treasure accepts donations of gently used mens clothing and shoes. Find more information at onemanstr.org.

THE TVEC CHARITABLE FOUNDATION recently awarded nine grants totaling \$32,000. Recipients of the grants include the above and:

Cedar Creek Friends of the Animals
\$2,000

Cedar Creek Friends of the Animals provides low or no-cost spay and neuter services, shots and microchipping, and pet adoption assistance.

Helping Angels of Kaufman
\$5,000

Helping Angels of Kaufman provides assistance with food, clothes, utilities, medical needs and temporary shelter for people affected by unforeseen circumstances.

Henderson County Rainbow Room
\$3,000

The Henderson County Rainbow Room provides clothing and personal care items for children who have been taken into the care of Child Protective Services.

Kaufman Christian Help Center
\$5,000

Kaufman Christian Help Center serves as a food resource for needy families, including additional holiday food and backpacks for students at the beginning of the school year.

Kaufman County Master Gardener Association
\$1,000

Kaufman County Master Gardeners provide educational opportunities for area residents throughout the year, and participate in beautification projects throughout the county.

Kiwanis Club of Cedar Creek Lake
\$5,000

The Kiwanis Club of Cedar Creek Lake is a service club that operates Project School Bell, clothing 50 underprivileged youth from lake-area schools.

The Purpose Project
\$5,000

The Purpose Project supports women in Kaufman County who are overcoming drug and alcohol dependency and other troubled pasts.

Wills Point Middle School
\$2,000

Wills Point Middle School operates a food backpack program to assist children who may not have their nutritional needs met at home.

Founded in 2013, the TVEC Charitable Foundation is an independent, nonprofit organization. The foundation was created to serve the community and help improve the quality of life for residents in our service area. **The foundation is funded entirely by donations from TVEC members who participate in Operation Round Up.** For more information, please call 1-800-766-9576 or visit tvec.net.