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**A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS OF OTERO COUNTY ELECTRIC CO-OP**

**September 2008**

Cloudcroft, N.M. 575-682-2521

Alto, N.M. 575-336-4550

Carrizozo, N.M. 575-648-2352

## Recipes Needed

Have you wished that you knew how Granny Virginia made that delicious Fried Cherry Pie last year at Thanksgiving or how the neighbor made his barbecue sauce at the last cookout.

We are compiling a cookbook full of recipes from our members and employees of Otero County Electric Cooperative.

You will get credit in the cookbook for your recipe because I will be putting your name in the book along with your recipe. The books will be made available to all members when completed. Please mail or email your recipes to:

**Clint Gardner**  
**Mgr. of Member Services**  
**Otero County Electric**  
**Coop.**  
**P.O. Box 1135**  
**Alto, New Mexico 88312**  
**or**  
**[clintg@ote-coop.com](mailto:clintg@ote-coop.com)**

Send more than one if you'd like. We welcome all recipes and need as many as we can get to make it a successful cookbook. There will be a reminder each month in your Power-Gram.

## NOTICE TO MEMBERS

In order to comply with Federal Trade Commission Rule 16 CFR Part 681.2, known as the "Red Flag" Rule, all utilities now require that consumers create a password or provide the proper identification to gain access to their account information.

Passwords must contain 6-22 characters (alpha & numeric). After November 1, 2008, access to account information without proper identification or password will be denied.

Please complete the information below and return to OCEC.

Name on Account: \_\_\_\_\_

Acct. Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Password: \_\_\_\_\_ Example: (Customer123)

Please choose one of the following security questions by circling the number and placing your answer in the space provided:

1. First Pet's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Favorite Cartoon Character \_\_\_\_\_

3. Name of High School you Graduated From: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Favorite Color: \_\_\_\_\_

5. City you were born in: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please cut out and return to OCEC with your payment)

## About Coops

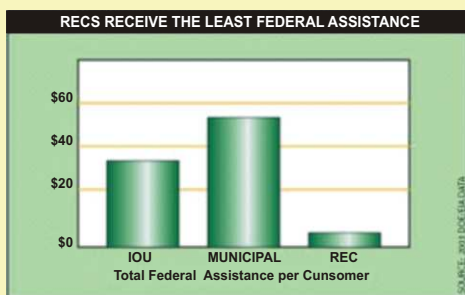
Electric cooperatives are private, independent electric utilities, owned by the members they serve. Democratically governed businesses, electric cooperatives are organized under the Cooperative or Rochdale Principles, anchoring them firmly in the communities they serve and ensuring that they are closely regulated by their consumers.

Electric cooperatives began to spread across rural America after President Franklin D. Roosevelt created the Rural Electrification Administration (REA) in 1935. The Executive Order establishing the REA and the passage of the REA Act a year later marked the first steps in a public-private partnership that has, over the last 70 years, bridged the vast expanse of rural America to bring electric power to businesses and communities willing to organize cooperatively and accept responsibility for the provision of safe, affordable and reliable electric power.

Today more than 900 electric cooperatives power Alaskan fishing villages, dairy farms in Vermont and the suburbs and exurbs in between. They provide reliable and technologically advanced service to 40 million Americans while maintaining a unique consumer-focused approach to business.

### Federal Assistance to Electric Utilities

According to Nobel Laureate economics professor, Lawrence R. Klein of the University of Pennsylvania, all types of utilities (Investor Owned Utilities (IOUs), Municipal Owned utilities and electric cooperatives enjoy some form of subsidy. You may be surprised to learn that electric cooperatives receive the least amount of subsidy per customer.



*All electric utilities receive federal subsidies in one form or another. Calculations based on federal government financial reports show that rural electric cooperatives receive the least federal amount of subsidy per consumer. This is in spite of the fact that RECs serve only 7 consumers per mile of line compared to 35 for IOUs and 47 for city-owned utilities.*

typically serve sparsely populated areas: they have an average of 7 customers per mile compared to 35 for IOUs and 47 for municipal owned utilities.

The difference in federal subsidies for each type of utility becomes even sharper after considering that electric cooperatives

## The 7 Cooperative Principles

### Voluntary and Open Membership

Cooperatives are voluntary organizations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership.

### Democratic Member Control

Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions.

### Members' Economic Participation

Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative.

### Autonomy and Independence

Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members.

### Education, Training, and Information

Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers, and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperatives.

### Cooperation Among Cooperatives

Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together.

### Concern for Community

While focusing on member needs, cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities.