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Karnes Electric Cooperative ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, June 11, 2026

Karnes City ISD Performing Arts Center

12:00p.m. - 7:00p.m. Registration & Voting

7:00p.m. - 8:00p.m. In-Person Meeting

Official Notice of Annual Meeting of Members

In accordance with Article III of the cooperative's bylaws, the annual meeting of the members of Karnes Electric Cooperative is to be held at Karnes City ISD Performing Arts Center, 400 N. Highway 123, Karnes City, TX 78118, with registration opening at noon and the in-person meeting beginning at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 11, 2026, to take action upon the following matters:

1. Reports of officers, directors and committees.
2. The election of two (2) directors.
3. All other business that may come before the meeting or any adjournment or adjournments thereof.

In connection with the election of two (2) directors, which is scheduled for this meeting, the members listed have been nominated for directors by the committee on nominations appointed by the board of directors of the cooperative or by petition pursuant to the bylaws. The members of the nominating committee were Joe Lopez, District 3; Kenneth Everett, District 7; and Daphne Bianchi, at-large.

Each nominee for director must meet the qualifications specified in Article IV of the cooperative's bylaws. The results of the election will be reported at the annual meeting. Each member (as so defined in Article I of the cooperative's bylaws) of legal voting age under the laws of the state of Texas is entitled to one vote, regardless of the number of meters held. The bylaws-required voter

qualifications are as follows:

1. The voting member must be the same person holding the membership.
2. If two spouses hold a joint membership they shall jointly be entitled to one (1) vote and no more.
3. Persons casting votes for organizations, i.e., corporations, churches, associations, partnerships, trusts, or other types of associations or businesses, must have on file at the cooperative's office, or in hand, a resolution certified by the appropriate officer naming and authorizing a person, and/or an alternate person, to vote as its authorized representative for such organization.
4. All estates shall be voted by the duly appointed executor, administrator or, if the membership is a joint membership, the joint survivor, or any one of the three. Before any of the three shall be allowed to vote, there shall be on file with the cooperative, or person voting shall have in hand, a duly signed request naming the executor or the administrator or the surviving joint member of the deceased member.

A copy of the bylaws may be obtained from the cooperative's website, karnesec.org.



Clif Royal
Secretary-Treasurer

88th Annual Membership Meeting

Thursday, June 11, 2026 | Karnes City ISD Performing Arts Center

Members can choose between attending a walk-through hand delivery of ballots and viewing of the annual report video or an in-person meeting.

Walk-Through Noon–7 p.m.

Walk-through attendees will be able to view co-op informational reports in the auditorium, visit with employees and board members, vote in the directors election, and pick up a gift on the way out. All walk-through participants who register for the meeting will be entered in a drawing to win a door prize. Members do not have to be present to win.

In-Person Meeting 7–8 p.m.

The in-person meeting will be in the traditional format, similar to past Karnes EC annual meetings. Members will have the opportunity to pick up a gift, participate in the business meeting and vote in the directors election. Every member who registers the day of the meeting will be entered in a drawing to win one of many door prizes.

We hope you'll join us as we celebrate 88 years of service!

June 2026



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Even as Opal Lee—the Grandmother of Juneteenth—approaches 100, she says her important work isn't done.

*By Michael Hurd
Portraits by Robert Seale*

J.O. Was Here

The history of this Hill Country vista goes right through a century-old Julian Onderdonk painting.

By John R. Millard

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ON THE COVER

Opal Lee at her home on East Annie Street in the Historic Southside neighborhood of Fort Worth.

Photo by Robert Seale

ABOVE

Live Oak Trees on Williams Ranch, Bandera County is a 1915 oil painting by Julian Onderdonk.

Painting by Julian Onderdonk



Volts Charge Into Texas

AFTER A FOUR-TEAM barnstorming season in 2025, the Athletes Unlimited Softball League is set to start its second season with six teams, including one in Texas.

The Texas Volts will return and play their home games at Dell Diamond in Round Rock and join teams based in Chicago; Durham, North Carolina; Oklahoma City; Portland, Oregon; and Salt Lake City.

“Texas is synonymous with softball excellence at every level,” said Kim Ng, the league’s commissioner.

The Volts start their 25-game season June 9 in Oklahoma City. Their first home game is June 18 against the Utah Talons.

“We have simply got to make people aware that none of us are free until we’re all free, and we aren’t free yet.”

— OPAL LEE

FINISH THIS SENTENCE

The greatest innovation in my lifetime is ...

TCP Tell us how you would finish that sentence. Email your short responses to letters@TexasCoopPower.com or comment on our Facebook post. Include your co-op and town.

Here are some of the responses to our April prompt: **If I could use only one electronic device, it would be ...**

The air conditioner.

MARILYN WERKHEISER
BLUEBONNET EC
BASTROP

My cellphone.

KAT CROSS
HOUSTON COUNTY EC
CROCKETT

My coffee maker.

KERRY BEREND
FORT BELKNAP EC
LOVING

Ham radio. Communication is most important.

GARY DAVID ANTLEY
VIA FACEBOOK

Phone with FaceTime.

JOHNNA HALE
TRINITY VALLEY EC
CANTON

Visit our website to see more responses.



TCP Contests and More

\$500 RECIPE CONTEST

Cranberry Harvest

FOCUS ON TEXAS PHOTOS

Tailgating

RECOMMENDED READING

The Bluebonnet Painter from April 2023 tells more about how Julian Onderdonk’s ethereal South Texas landscapes flourish. Find it on our website.



ENTER ONLINE

APRIL 2026 Kickin' Ashe

“A lot of fitness can still be gained by using a chain saw. The sweat washes off, but the sap stays on the arms for many days.”

RAY WOLBRECHT
PEDERNALES EC
BLANCO



DAVE URBAN

A Whole Mess of Trash

I had seen all the Don't Mess With Texas signs and so was surprised by a surge in litter [A *Tidy Revolution*, March 2026]. I complained and complained to my husband about the litter and the fact that no one seemed worried about it.

Finally, I grew tired of complaining and decided to act. Now, I try to collect litter once a week—one bag of cans and bottles and one bag of trash.

Lynda Southwick
Bluebonnet EC
Brenham

Wear a Life Jacket

I was excited by the paddling trails article [Charted Waters, March 2026]. However, I was dismayed when pictures showed paddlers not wearing life jackets and reading only to “pack a personal flotation device, as required by Texas law.”

While canoeing, I've experienced several hairy situations and would never not wear one. According to the U.S. Coast



ERICH SCHLEGEL

Guard, 85% of boating-related drowning victims were not wearing a life vest.

Kat Saul
Grayson-Collin EC
Allen

Cavalry Hopes

I always wanted to be in the Army cavalry [From Posts to Pillars, February 2026].

When I came of age, the cavalry was no more.

But I knew a man who was born on Fort Ringgold. His father was the post bandmaster. He used to tell me many interesting stories of those times.

Wallace L. Morgan
GVEC
Nixon

Blocker Billboard

Yes, at one time there was a billboard announcing that O'Donnell was the hometown of Dan Blocker [Tiny Dots on a Big Map, January 2026]. Sadly, the fading signage went AWOL, probably blown away by high winds that frequent this part of the High Plains.

Betty Morgan
Bryan Texas Utilities
Bryan

TCP WRITE TO US
letters@TexasCoopPower.com

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Austin, TX 78701

Please include your electric co-op and town. Letters may be edited for clarity and length.

Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, LinkedIn, Texas Co-op Power

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Giant Footsteps

Even as Opal Lee—the Grandmother of Juneteenth—approaches 100, she says her important work isn't done

Opal Lee says she was the “little ol’ lady in tennis shoes getting into everybody else’s business” when, in 2016, at age 89 and buoyed by her faith, she embarked on an ambitious campaign to make Juneteenth a national holiday by walking from her home in Fort Worth to Washington, D.C. Ten years later, the holiday is official, she is celebrated as the Grandmother of Juneteenth and her well-worn tennis shoes are getting a long-deserved rest.

That doesn’t mean the contemporary folk hero is finally settling into idleness—even as she approaches centenarian status (she turns 100 on October 7). And once you get a sense of her life, you realize inactivity is not a concept she embraces. Retirement?

“You’ve got to be kidding!” she quickly retorts, flashing her wide, congenial smile. “People who are old can’t sit in a rocking chair and wait for the Lord to come and get them. There’s still plenty of work to be done, and I’ll do what I can as long as I can.”

She speaks with an eloquent urgency and passion about her work over many decades as a civil rights and community activist who advocated for the homeless, jobless and hungry; for education; and for Juneteenth recognition—all of which she connects to being free. She says she fully intends to continue her work through her belief that “we are our brother’s keeper, and we’d better act like it”—but at a slower pace.

For sure, there will be no more extended walking campaigns. An illness last summer was a setback, and though she’s recovered, the episode supported growing suggestions from her family, which includes 15 grandchildren and 40 great-grandchildren, that it was time to step back a bit.

“It’s been great to see her dream come true, something she’s been after most of her life,” says Promise Roland, one of Lee’s granddaughters and a Fort Worth real estate agent. “It’s been overwhelming, but we’re delighted. She’s been asked to slow down, but that’s not her.

“With her tenacity, she’s going to keep at it; she doesn’t take no for an answer.”

Lee, a 1943 graduate, at age 16, of Fort Worth’s I.M. Terrell High School, has maximized her century on this planet with service to family, church and community. She raised her four children as a young single mother, got a bachelor’s degree in education from Wiley College in Marshall, earned a master’s degree in counseling and guidance in 1963 from North Texas State University (now the University of North Texas), and taught third grade for 15 years at Amanda McCoy Elementary School, her alma mater.

She helped start a food bank by contributing fresh produce grown in her 5-acre urban farm that also helps address Tarrant County food deserts.

She is an iconic, revered change agent, so getting into everybody else’s business—good trouble—teaching and helping others is what she does, and she does it very well. She’s received eight honorary doctorates, was named 2021 Texan of the Year by *The Dallas Morning News*, was a Nobel Peace Prize nominee and received the Presidential Medal of Freedom. In 2023, her portrait was placed in the Texas Senate Chamber, making her only the second Black person (after U.S. Rep. Barbara Jordan) so honored. In January, Mattel introduced the “Opal Barbie.”

Opal Lee on her Juneteenth walks: “If people can be taught to hate, they can be taught to love. The promise of freedom is only as strong as those who choose to uphold it. Will you rise to the occasion or stand still as history passes you by?”





COURTESY OPAL'S WALK 2 DC TEAM

LEFT Lee walks for her cause in February 2020 in Las Vegas.

BELOW Lee, on her porch in November 2025, lives on the same Fort Worth plot where, in 1939, a mob burned down her family's home.

Despite it all, Lee lives in a modest new house on Fort Worth's East Annie Street—on the same corner lot where, in 1939, her family's home was burned down by a mob of 500 angry would-be neighbors who objected to the family integrating the neighborhood. It happened on Juneteenth.

Her new house was a gift from Trinity Habitat for Humanity in 2024 as a tribute to Lee, one of the nonprofit's founding board members.

The Marshall native was a child when she first learned about the date June 19, 1865, when Union Gen. Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston to make the first notifications that enslaved Texans were free—two and a half years after President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation. She joined family and friends annually to celebrate the day with “plenty of food, food and more food.”

Lee was a co-founder in 1977 of the Tarrant County Black Historical and Genealogical Society, through which she organized Fort Worth's Juneteenth events, including walks, for 40 years. But she felt there was more she could do.

A quest was born: Make Juneteenth a national holiday.

Her plan was to walk to D.C. and present a signed petition to Congress as a symbol of nationwide support for passage



*I don't feel no ways tired,
I've come too far from where
I started from.
Nobody told me that the road
would be easy,
I don't believe He brought me
this far to leave me.*

—African American spiritual

of the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act. Forty-seven states, including Texas, had already established state holidays or observances.

The octogenarian took to the road, her T-shirt emblazoned with “Opal’s Walk for Freedom,” and was joined by thousands of diverse supporters, many carrying homemade signs of support (“Go, Ms. Opal!”) and walking with her in festive, joyous parades.

“I just started walking, and people started participating, coming to join me, finding a place for me to stay,” she said. “I got 1.5 million signatures. I met all kinds of people, not just those in power. People who were beginning to understand what the day was all about. Not just red soda water and barbecue, but there was meaning to it. People embraced Juneteenth.”

The distance between Fort Worth and D.C. is a little over 1,200 miles as the crow flies. Lee took the scenic route, walking a symbolic 2.5 miles (for the two and a half years it took for news of emancipation to reach Texas) in 20 cities that supported her movement and invited her to walk, including Shreveport, Louisiana; Atlanta; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Pueblo, Colorado; Chicago; and Philadelphia.

She began the walks in September 2016 and four months later was in Washington with the completed petition. Almost five years later, the act passed and was signed into law by President Joe Biden on June 17, 2021.

“I was so happy, I could have done a holy dance!” Lee says.

The crown jewel for her work is the \$70 million state-of-the-art National Juneteenth Museum slated to break ground in Fort Worth later this year. The 50,000-square-foot cultural center is billed as “the epicenter for the preservation of Juneteenth history.”

“Dr. Lee’s advocacy is the foundation on which the museum was established,” says Jarred Howard, the museum’s CEO. “We’re thrilled to collaborate with Dr. Lee and are committed to expanding her extraordinary legacy through the creation of a world-class learning center.”

Though she isn’t moving quite as much now, Lee’s family is gladly taking the baton to keep her legacy going. Her granddaughters are active board members for Lee’s non-



RENDERING COURTESY NATIONAL JUNETEENTH MUSEUM

National Juneteenth Museum

Destined for Fort Worth’s Historic Southside, plans include:

- 10,000 square feet of immersive exhibit space
- A 250-seat theater for lectures, performances and other events
- A business incubator and coworking space
- A food hall featuring culturally diverse cuisine
- The National Juneteenth Plaza, a public courtyard and green space

profit foundation, Citizens Concerned with Human Dignity. The organization assists marginalized families in need of shelter, food, employment, healthcare and education.

“It’ll take more than one person to fill her shoes,” Roland says, “so it will truly be a family effort. She still has a lot of fire, but it’s time for us to do the heavy lifting.”

Lee’s fire has always been about teaching and the fertile minds of young folks, and that flame burns as brightly as ever, sparked by her successful Juneteenth campaigns.

“I want the young people to realize how important Black history is and for them to embrace it, know their history and pass it on,” she says. “The road to true freedom is long, but I’ve walked it my whole life.” ■



TCP Enter online to win two signed illustrated children’s books about Opal Lee’s life.



ENTER ONLINE



J.O. WAS HERE

The history of this
Hill Country vista
goes right through
a century-old
Julian Onderdonk
painting

BY JOHN R. MILLARD

The west prong of the Medina River arises in Bandera County and flows eastward, fed by underground springs amid steep, canyon-carved terrain northwest of San Antonio. The flow traces a serpentine path through oak and cedar groves, rocky outcrops, and grassy slopes before joining the north prong near the town of Medina.

In 1915, this area was still a wild frontier—sparsely settled, with vast ranches dominating the landscape. The Medina Lake dam, completed in 1912, altered downstream flows, but the upper prongs retained their pristine character: clear waters, rocky riverbeds, and dense cedar and live oak groves.

It was beautiful country. I know this because Julian Onderdonk stopped here in 1915, set up an easel and canvas, and got to painting—and I can prove it.

It all started with a chance discovery: a digital image of an Onderdonk oil painting called *Gulf Clouds in the Hills on the West Prong of the Medina River* instantly caught my eye—not just for its beauty but for its uncanny resemblance to our land.

“Debra,” I called out to my wife, “you won’t believe it, but this is our property.”



I had just hiked those ridges that morning, stood on that same bluff and looked down at that same striated rock in the riverbed. The landscape in the painting wasn't just similar—it was ours.

What started as a curious observation turned into a historical investigation—one that led me through Texas archives, family lore and conversations with art experts, historians and ranchers. The deeper I dug, the more the story grew. Not just one painting but possibly four were painted by Onderdonk during a 1915 visit to what was then known as the Williams Ranch, now part of our West Prong Ranch.

We acquired the property in January 2024—one of seven tracts carved from the historic Garrison Ranch, originally established in the late 1800s. Like many historic properties, the ranch evolved over time—its boundaries reshaped by sales, inheritances and a legal dispute—but the same beauty remains.

John R. Millard was stunned to discover that a 1915 Julian Onderdonk painting, above, portrays a view he enjoys on his Bandera County property, opposite. It's undeniable, Millard says.

Gulf Clouds in the Hills on the West Prong of the Medina River

1915

Oil on panel

Lusher Art Collection

This painting demonstrates the complex geographic identity of San Antonio's countryside. The title and fluffy white clouds indicate the region's proximity to the Gulf Coast. Green hills, characteristic of Central and South Texas, form the horizon. The west prong, illustrated here, is one of two main sections of the Medina River. The nearly dry river exposes the limestone bed, and there is just enough water to reflect the blue sky.

The Man With the Brush

Often called the “Father of Texas Art,” Onderdonk left an indelible mark on American impressionism with his radiant Hill Country portrayals. Born in San Antonio in 1882, he trained under his father, artist Robert Jenkins Onderdonk, and later under William Merritt Chase in New York, honing his eye for light and texture.

Returning to Texas in 1909, Onderdonk fused Chase’s plein air, or open air, philosophy of painting outdoors with the rugged splendor of his homeland.

Onderdonk’s works—vibrant with color, delicately executed and alive with natural beauty—earned acclaim during his lifetime and reverence after his death in 1922.

Today his paintings command high prices: *Blue Bonnet Field*, *Early Morning*, *San Antonio Texas* sold for \$515,000 in 2013. Two other pieces sold for \$317,000 and \$281,000 at that same auction in Dallas. His works have been on display in all



of Texas’ major art museums, and several paintings even hung in the Oval Office when George W. Bush was president.

Each of the four 1915 paintings features terrain elements that resemble areas on or near our property—with live oaks, horizon lines and familiar contours we can still observe today. While there’s no direct evidence or documentation of such an excursion, the visual similarities raise the possibility they were painted during a multiday journey by mule into this remote region.

I hiked back out to the bend in the river and took a photo. From that vantage point,

the similarities were undeniable. The limestone bluffs, the curve of the hills, the river’s arc and the distinctive limestone formations in the riverbed all aligned with striking precision—like fingerprints.

It was a match. Onderdonk’s *Gulf Clouds in the Hills on the West Prong of the Medina River* portrays the very terrain we

now call home—capturing its distinctive topography with remarkable accuracy.

Collector of the Clouds

But for this discovery to be taken seriously, it needed more than compelling visual similarities; it needed validation from people who know Onderdonk best.

Art dealer Harry Halff is the foremost authority on Onderdonk

and author of the artist’s catalogue raisonné—the definitive scholarly resource documenting the artist’s body of work.

“There is no doubt in my mind that the painting’s location is on your ranch,” Halff wrote in an email after reviewing the photographic comparisons and supporting documentation. “This may be one of the rare Onderdonk landscapes still visually tied to a named site today.”

Ted Lusher agreed with that assessment. He’s a respected collector of Texas art and history whose personal archive includes rare artifacts of Texas and Onderdonk’s original *Gulf Clouds in the Hills* itself.

“There’s no question in my mind,” he wrote of the similarities to our land. “The alignment of terrain and artistic detail is too precise to be coincidental.”

In 1915, traveling from San Antonio to Bandera County—about 50 miles away to the northwest—was challenging. With FM 337 not established until 1945, Onderdonk would have traveled over steep dirt trails and caliche paths, common in rural Texas at the time.

Automobiles like the Ford Model T had existed since 1908 but were impractical in the Hill Country’s rough conditions, especially for an artist of modest means. Instead, Onderdonk

“
For us, this land has become something rare—
a kind of living time machine. The terrain remains
so untouched, the features so distinctive, that the
gap between today and 1915 seems to vanish.
”



OPPOSITE, FROM TOP
A 1901 portrait of
Onderdonk, one of
Texas' artistic masters,
by William Merritt
Chase. Millard stands
with Daisy Jane on the
property he bought
with his wife in 2024.
He considers their
ranch a living gallery.

RIGHT Millard's research
into Onderdonk
suggests *Windmill
on Williams Ranch*
was also painted on
his property in 1915.



JULIAN ONDERDONK

likely used horse-drawn transport, such as wagons or buggies for flatter areas, and possibly mules for the steeper terrain.

Half notes that Onderdonk was “not averse to long hikes in the country,” often walking out into the hills armed with his easel, canvas and paints.

While Half has not found any direct references to mule travel, he considers it “entirely plausible” that Onderdonk may have ridden by mule into more remote terrain.

The Muleman Next Door

That brings us to Paul Garrison III, our neighbor and a skilled mule skinner.

Garrison's family has lived and ranched on this land for five generations, and he carries forward the family legacy as the owner of Garrison Mulemanship and Training, a program known far and wide for cultivating the unique partnership between mules and their handlers.

Garrison and I discussed how Onderdonk might have reached this rugged, steep land more than a century ago. “There's no way he got there by car,” he said. “You'd need a good mule—maybe two. This is classic mule country.”

Before the Garrison family—and long before us—the land was known as the Williams Ranch. One of its earliest first-hand accounts comes from Samuel H. Sutton, who was born in 1850 and moved here in 1876.

One memory stood out for Sutton, writing for *Frontier Times Magazine* in 1928: He and his wife were washing clothes at the confluence of Cazey Creek and the west prong of the Medina River when they were surprised by Native Americans on a bluff above them. Sutton grabbed his rifle, his heart pounding. The moment passed without violence, but the tension and terrain left a mark on him.

His description of the bluff and the wash spot corresponds closely to the same curve and elevation where *Gulf Clouds in the Hills* was likely painted. It's fascinating to think that within a few decades, this same bluff and river could have

been the setting for a settler's tense moment and an artist's quiet observation.

Preserving the View

One of the most remarkable aspects of this story is how little the land has changed, and Debra and I are determined to keep it that way. We've intentionally avoided building in areas that would disrupt the natural setting and have left existing trails undisturbed.

For us, this land has become something rare—a kind of living time machine. The terrain remains so untouched, the features so distinctive, that the gap between today and 1915 seems to vanish.

Visitors notice it, too. When we show them the digital image of the painting beside the actual view, there's often a long pause, followed by some variation of: “This place hasn't changed at all.”

In a constantly evolving world, finding proof that a landscape has stayed so consistent is unusual. The land reflects the same beauty Onderdonk captured, and now, more than a century later, we can see it just as he did.

As landowners, we're stewards of something much greater than ourselves. Our ranch is more than just acreage. It's a living gallery—one that requires no velvet ropes, no security guards and no admission fee. Just boots, curiosity and a willingness to see.

We didn't set out to uncover a hidden chapter in Texas art history. But once we realized what we were standing on, it became clear: This land belongs to history. To Onderdonk. To Sutton. To the Garrisons. And to everyone who's ever paused to marvel at the way clouds move across the hills.

Gulf Clouds in the Hills isn't just oil on canvas. It's evidence. That Onderdonk stood here. That he saw what we see. And that he found it beautiful enough to preserve forever.

We're honored to be part of that continuum. ■

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CONNECTED BY P⚡WER



2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Connected by Power, Resilient in Action



GENERAL
MANAGER

ERIC
HALFMANN



PRESIDENT

PAUL T.
BRYSCH JR.

WE INVITE YOU to join us for the Karnes Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 11, at the Karnes City Independent School District Performing Arts Center. We look forward to this event every year, as it's always a blessing to reconnect with longtime members and welcome new faces.

This year, we're offering members extended hours to register and vote in the director elections. Members can come and go between noon and 7 p.m. Members who register will receive a ballot and gift bag and be entered into the door prize drawing. Additionally, the first 350 registrants will receive a \$25 bill credit.

The annual meeting will start at 7 p.m. Whether you participate in the early registration and voting or attend the evening session, we appreciate your involvement and thank you for allowing us to serve and positively impact our community.

Resilient in Action

As your electric cooperative, we take pride in pursuing our mission of providing quality service to empower communities and improve lives. This past year's successes and challenges are highlighted by our team's resilience as the electric industry undergoes major changes. Our resilience was evident when our team achieved zero recordable injuries—underscoring a culture that truly values safety and innovation.

Following the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, our story began in 1938, when members of our community established KEC to serve areas overlooked by other utilities. By 1940, our energized lines brought new possibilities to rural life and a legacy of resilience and community connection that still inspires us today.

Over the last 88 years, the industry has continually evolved, and it currently faces ongoing challenges—such as unprecedented large load growth from artificial intelligence, new technology, heightened reliability demands, regulatory challenges, cybersecurity threats and increasing costs. But thanks to our resilient team and strong community connection, KEC is well-equipped to thrive amid change and continue to serve the best interest of our members.

Impact of Rising Costs

Our team works hard to optimize operations to keep rates competitive and maintain a safe electrical system for our families

to live and work around. The co-op business model enables us to serve lower-density and higher-cost areas effectively, always prioritizing quality and affordable service over profit. This founding purpose sets us apart and guides every decision we make.

In 2025, a rate adjustment was approved for usage beginning March 1, 2026, to address rising costs. This was KEC's first rate increase since 2009 and followed extensive financial analysis, underscoring our strong record of maintaining competitive rates.

The average residential rate paid by our members in 2025 was 10.14 cents per kilowatt-hour—significantly lower than the statewide average of over 15 cents per kWh. We expect the adjusted rates to stay competitive, and because we are a not-for-profit provider, we return excess revenues to our members as capital credits. In 2025, \$1,168,869.04 was returned, bringing the total since 1989 to \$25,613,750.99.

Commitment to Continuous Improvement

We understand the effects of rising prices and are committed to delivering the best value for your dollar. To achieve this, we assess alternative supply options, conduct competitive bidding and employ strategic financing.

We invest in condition-based maintenance and infrastructure improvements to maximize equipment life, reduce outages and support growth. In 2025, infrastructure improvements included clearing 122 miles of lines, trimming 79 miles of trees, replacing 1,653 poles, and designing and building 502 new services. The system grew by 44 miles of energized line, contributing to a 2.5% sales increase with 1,539,822,738 kilowatt-hours sold.

In 2025, system improvements were headlined by the construction of power lines for a new substation on Bruce Road, west of U.S. Highway 281. This substation was energized in February 2026 to meet growing demand and improve reliability in northern Atascosa and Wilson counties. Overall, \$13.7 million worth of construction work plan projects were completed in 2025.

We continue to use technology to advance system operations, such as intelligent fault indication and improved coordination of sectionalizing equipment. We're also transitioning to reclosers that offer enhanced protection and maintenance-free operation. Collectively, these upgrades, along with operational analytics, enhance reliability and optimize cost.

As the digital landscape continues to evolve, we're upgrading our technology to ensure long-term sustainability and resilience. We're pleased to share that KEC achieved the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Level 2 cyber goals in 2025, along with strengthened defenses through third-party partnerships. These initiatives demonstrate our ongoing

commitment to maintaining robust security and providing top-tier service to our members.

Powering the Future

The electric grid is experiencing rapid transformation, fueled by rising demand, large data center loads and shifting generation resources. To navigate these shifts and optimize costs, we partner with one of our wholesale power and transmission providers, South Texas Electric Cooperative, to secure resources for our members' long-term needs.

After several years of strategic planning, STEC recently acquired two gas generation assets, adding 768 megawatts of quick-start dispatchable capacity to meet generation targets, manage market risks and strengthen STEC's already robust power supply portfolio.

San Miguel Electric Cooperative, KEC's other wholesale power and transmission provider, received a \$1.4 billion project award through the federal Empowering Rural America program, offering a unique opportunity to transition its generation technology to 400 MWs of solar generation and 200 megawatt-hours of battery storage, lowering power supply costs.

As a SMEC member-owner, this project could save KEC members over \$100 million in energy costs over the life of the project and enable SMEC to continue supplying long-term power to South Texas communities.

Legislation and regulation continue to shape the future of power. Nationwide, electric co-ops have successfully defended against policies that increase costs and threaten grid reliability.

In the 89th Texas legislative session, grassroots advocacy by electric co-ops and members statewide successfully stopped a harmful pole attachment bill, protecting grid safety, reliability and electric bills. Active participation also influenced legislation on pole inspection and maintenance, wildfire mitigation, and large load impacts to grid reliability and cost allocation.

We remain committed to advocating for smart energy policies that support affordable, reliable and safe electricity, using a unified, local approach rooted in trust.

Connected by Power

KEC's passion for member and community impact shines in our 2025 American Consumer Satisfaction Index score of 90, exceeding the average scores for cooperatives (76) and investor-owned utilities (74).

To further strengthen community ties, our team supported more than 60 charitable and community organizations, and employees participated in more than 45 community outreach events.

On October 13, during an all-employee service day, staff volunteered with 10 organizations throughout our community,

building teamwork while giving back.

We also invest in the future by awarding scholarships to graduating students pursuing higher education. In 2025, we awarded \$2,500 scholarships to 20 students across our service area.

In 2025, our team's passion for improving lives reached beyond our service area with participation in an NRECA International project in Guatemala. We proudly recognize linemen Glenn Kelley and Paul Rodriguez for selflessly dedicating their time and talents to this project.

This past November, they traveled to the remote village of Yalicar in Alta Verapaz, Guatemala, joining 20 other linemen from South Texas cooperatives to bring life-changing electricity to this rural area. This outstanding group exceeded expectations, finishing the original project ahead of schedule and completing part of an additional project. All together, they built about 5 miles of power line and wired 135 homes. Their efforts and this project exemplify KEC's mission to improve lives.

Looking ahead, we are working to develop a strategic road map centered on impactful initiatives that create new value for members, enhance service quality and position us to navigate emerging industry shifts and challenges effectively. We have partnered with NRECA Consulting Services in 2026 to assist in a comprehensive process to analyze, improve and strategize for future needs, boosting KEC's capabilities, effectiveness and overall performance.

While the energy landscape will continue to present new challenges, our commitment to resilience ensures we are not just reacting to change but anticipating it. By investing in our team and a smarter, more robust grid, we ensure that KEC remains the reliable backbone of our community.

We humbly thank you for trusting us to power your lives now and in the future.



Paul T. Brysch Jr.



Eric Halfmann

Statement of Income and Patronage Capital

AS OF DECEMBER 31

2025

2024

OPERATING REVENUES

Residential	\$ 24,719,484	\$ 22,774,679
Irrigation	4,106,974	3,566,183
Commercial and Industrial	103,274,474	93,617,948
Rent From Electric Property and Other Electric Revenue	54,849	39,528
Other	510,435	541,103
Unbilled Revenue	1,553,000	1,001,000
Total Operating Revenue	\$134,219,216	\$ 121,540,441

OPERATING EXPENSES

Purchased Power	\$105,642,790	\$ 93,435,604
Distribution—Operation	2,848,208	3,338,904
Distribution—Maintenance	4,605,583	4,086,886
Consumer Accounts	2,485,660	2,256,565
Administrative and General	5,630,430	5,362,042
Depreciation and Amortization	11,373,718	10,589,582
Taxes	208,616	193,575
Other Interest Expenses	297,521	224,948
Total Operating Expenses	\$133,092,526	\$ 119,488,106

OPERATING MARGINS

Before Fixed Charges	\$ 1,126,690	\$ 2,052,335
Interest on Long-Term Debt	(727,617)	(758,090)
After Fixed Charges	\$ 399,073	\$ 1,294,245
Capital Credits—G&T	7,745,202	7,001,620
Capital Credits—Other	322,309	391,984
Net Operating Margins	\$ 8,466,584	\$ 8,687,849

NONOPERATING MARGINS

Interest Income	\$ 310,116	\$ 438,418
Other Nonoperating Income	\$ 195,524	\$ (8,004)
Net Nonoperating Income (Loss)	\$ 505,640	\$ 430,414
Net Margins	\$ 8,972,224	\$ 9,118,263

NET MARGINS

Patronage Capital—Beginning of Year	\$176,761,071	\$ 169,666,508
Unbilled Revenue Transferred to Other Equities	(1,553,000)	(1,001,000)
Transfer to Other Equities	325,978	-
Patronage Capital Retired	(1,169,302)	(1,022,700)
Patronage Capital—End of Year	\$183,336,971	\$ 176,761,071



MESSAGE
FROM
SECRETARY-
TREASURER
CLIF ROYAL

To the members of
Karnes Electric Cooperative,
Karnes City:

The accounting firm of Bolinger,
Segars, Gilbert & Moss LLP
performed an audit of our
financial statements for the
year ended December 31, 2025.

We received a clean opinion on
that audit. The complete audit
report is on file at the head-
quarters office of Karnes Electric
Cooperative.

Clif Royal
Secretary-Treasurer
Karnes Electric Cooperative

Balance Sheet

YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31

2025

2024

ASSETS

UTILITY PLANT AT COST

Electric Plant in Service	\$183,610,245	\$171,234,039
Construction Work in Progress	8,907,008	5,889,939
	\$192,517,253	\$177,123,978
Less: Accumulated Provision for Depreciation	60,197,537	51,555,896
	\$132,319,716	\$125,568,082

OTHER PROPERTY AND INVESTMENTS AT COST OR STATED VALUE

Investments in Associated Organizations	\$76,513,590	\$68,696,102
Other Investments	293,483	337,214
	\$76,807,073	\$69,033,316

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash—General	\$3,399,886	\$9,521,085
Short-Term Investments	3,000,000	3,000,000
Accounts and Notes Receivable (Less Allowance for Uncollectibles of \$52,630 in 2025 and \$36,710 in 2024)	8,354,038	7,014,746
Unbilled Revenue	11,237,000	9,684,000
Materials and Supplies at Average Cost	8,148,480	8,808,428
Other Current and Accrued Assets	380,457	259,007
	\$34,519,861	\$38,287,266
Total Assets	\$243,646,650	\$232,888,664

EQUITIES AND LIABILITIES

EQUITIES

Memberships	\$73,240	\$73,170
Patronage Capital	183,336,971	176,761,071
Other Equities	11,249,165	10,021,398
	\$194,659,376	\$186,855,639

LONG-TERM DEBT

RUS Mortgage Notes Less Current Maturities	\$295,281	\$358,307
FFB Mortgage Notes Less Current Maturities	8,646,296	9,081,901
CFC Mortgage Notes Less Current Maturities	9,826,308	5,050,530
CoBank Mortgage Notes Less Current Maturities	2,950,393	3,538,964
	\$21,718,278	\$18,029,702

OTHER LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

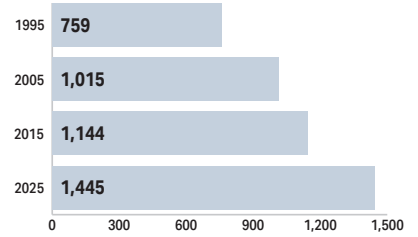
Deferred Compensation	\$0	\$43,257
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CURRENT LIABILITIES

Current Maturities of Long-Term Debt	\$1,303,000	\$1,206,000
Short-Term Line of Credit	2,500,000	
Accounts Payable	609,303	541,393
Accounts Payable—Purchased Power	9,008,161	7,521,960
Consumer Deposits and Prepayments	3,898,696	4,435,473
Accrued Taxes	779,293	778,489
Other Current and Accrued Liabilities	1,015,734	1,013,555
	\$19,114,187	\$15,496,870
Deferred Credits	\$8,154,809	\$12,463,196
Total Equities and Liabilities	\$243,646,650	\$232,888,664

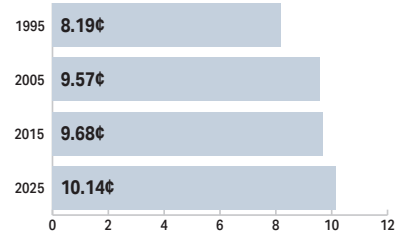
Average Monthly KWh Usage per Consumer

(Residential Classification)



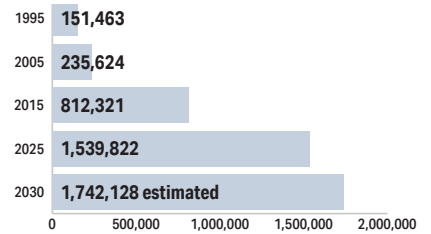
Average Monthly KWh Cost per Consumer

(Residential Classification)

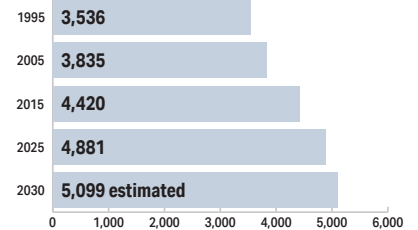


Annual KWh Sales

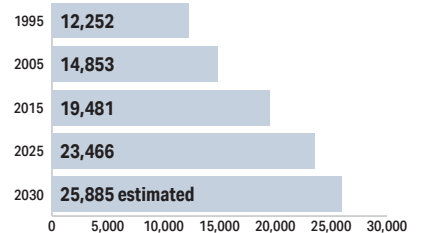
(In Thousands)



Miles of Line



Number of Meters



Where Your Dollar Went



YEAR	PURCHASED POWER	OPERATIONS AND MAINTAINING SYSTEMS	DEPRECIATION	INTEREST	TAXES AND INSURANCE	MEMBERS' CAPITAL CREDITS AND MARGINS
2001	66.7¢	16.0¢	7.5¢	4.9¢	2.0¢	2.9¢
2002	63.8¢	14.8¢	7.3¢	4.0¢	2.4¢	7.7¢
2003	65.0¢	15.8¢	7.4¢	3.7¢	2.4¢	5.7¢
2004	69.0¢	15.5¢	7.3¢	3.7¢	2.4¢	2.1¢
2005	70.5¢	13.3¢	6.4¢	4.1¢	2.1¢	3.6¢
2006	70.8¢	13.4¢	6.0¢	4.4¢	2.0¢	3.4¢
2007	70.6¢	14.8¢	6.5¢	5.1¢	1.8¢	1.2¢
2008	76.4¢	12.2¢	5.5¢	4.3¢	1.5¢	0.1¢
2009	70.7¢	12.2¢	5.3¢	4.4¢	1.4¢	6.0¢
2010	67.9¢	13.0¢	5.4¢	4.3¢	1.4¢	8.0¢
2011	67.2¢	14.1¢	5.3¢	4.0¢	1.4¢	8.0¢
2012	66.2¢	14.6¢	5.2¢	3.7¢	1.4¢	8.9¢
2013	69.4¢	12.7¢	4.3¢	2.6¢	1.1¢	9.9¢
2014	70.5¢	10.8¢	3.1¢	1.8¢	1.0¢	12.8¢
2015	67.6¢	9.4¢	4.0¢	1.6¢	1.1¢	16.3¢
2016	68.3¢	9.3¢	5.2¢	1.3¢	1.1¢	14.8¢
2017	68.8¢	9.4¢	5.3¢	1.1¢	1.1¢	14.3¢
2018	69.8¢	9.0¢	5.2¢	1.0¢	1.0¢	14.0¢
2019	69.1¢	9.8¢	5.5¢	1.0¢	1.0¢	13.6¢
2020	72.5¢	11.4¢	6.5¢	1.0¢	1.5¢	7.1¢
2021	74.0¢	14.9¢	8.2¢	0.7¢	1.4¢	0.8¢
2022	78.0¢	9.3¢	7.0¢	0.6¢	1.1¢	4.0¢
2023	76.3¢	11.4¢	8.3¢	0.7¢	1.2¢	2.1¢
2024	76.2¢	12.3¢	8.6¢	0.8¢	1.1¢	1.0¢
2025	78.0¢	11.5¢	8.4¢	0.8¢	1.1¢	0.2¢

Where Your Revenue Came From

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Farms and Ranches	14.4%	14.2%	15.2%	14.5%	12.4%	12.1%	11.3%	11.2%
Towns and Subdivisions	8.0%	7.9%	8.5%	8.5%	8.2%	8.1%	7.6%	7.5%
Irrigation	2.5%	2.5%	3.2%	2.5%	3.6%	3.1%	3.0%	3.1%
Small Commercial	7.6%	7.8%	7.5%	7.2%	9.3%	9.3%	9.0%	8.7%
Large Commercial	41.5%	41.2%	41.9%	41.9%	42.9%	42.5%	43.5%	44.4%
Public Buildings	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%
Oil Wells	25.3%	25.7%	23.3%	24.7%	23.0%	24.2%	25.0%	24.6%
Other Revenue	0.5%	0.5%	0.3%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.4%
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Employees

NAME	TITLE	YEARS OF SERVICE	NAME	TITLE	YEARS OF SERVICE
Jacob Asebedo	Aerial Bucket Operator	8	Russell Korzekwa	Engineering Manager	25
Sonny Barrientez	Serviceman	30	Barbara Kotzur	AMI Support Specialist	19
Jesse Benavides	Operations Manager	10	Thomas Kowalik	Building/Grounds Maintenance Technician	5
Jennifer Berger	Member Service Representative II	5	Nathan Krudwig	Second-Class Lineman I	4
Keaton Borgstedte	Groundman	Less than 1	Tammy Labus	Finance and Accounting Manager	41
Madelyn Braudaway	Staking Coordinator	2	Alfredo Lopez	Serviceman	11
Mandie Busselman	Dispatcher	1	Charles Luttrell	First-Class Lineman	7
Destinee Castillo	Member Service Representative I	1	Robison Lyman	IT Technician I	2
Leroy Castillo	Warehouse Coordinator	7	Kaleb Martinez	Apprentice Lineman I	1
Travis Chain	Mechanic II	1	Rebecca Mueller	Lead Member Service Representative	30
Esperanza Cumpian	Member Service Representative II	17	Randy Ortiz	Maintenance Foreman	14
Fredrick Currie	Line Locate Coordinator	19	Ernest Pacheco	Serviceman	38
Adolfo De La Garza	Warehouse Materials Handler	33	Kevin Palermo	First-Class Lineman	15
Jessica De Los Santos	Member Service Representative II	3	Gary Pawelek	First-Class Lineman	35
Cory Ebrom	Purchasing Agent	23	Tosha Pennington	Dispatcher	5
Michael Espinoza	First-Class Lineman	4	Irma Pesqueda	Member Service Representative II	5
Rebecca Frazier	GIS Technician	11	Brenda Quintanilla	Accountant I	4
Suzanne Friesenhahn	Consumer Accounting Representative	14	Nicolas Quintanilla	Operations Coordinator	24
Pedro Garcia	Operations Supervisor	22	Candace Reynolds	Accountant II	9
Richard Garcia	Staking Foreman	15	Xavier Ribble	IT Systems Analyst	6
Daniel Garza	Staking Technician I	1	Juan Rodriguez	Apprentice Lineman I	1
Luis Godinez	Meter Technician	1	Paul Rodriguez	Serviceman	15
Alejandro Gonzales	Warehouse/Work Order Coordinator	4	Clinton Royal	Serviceman	28
Leslie Gonzales	Member Service Representative II	4	Cody Salas	Construction Foreman	11
Justin Gray	Construction Foreman	16	Jacob Sanchez	GIS Field Technician	9
Gabriel Gutierrez	Apprentice Lineman I	1	Kimberly Sanchez	Communications Coordinator	6
Phillip Gutierrez	Apprentice Lineman I	1	Alicia Sandoval	Work Order Clerk	11
Eric Halfmann	General Manager	3	John Saucedo	First-Class Lineman	6
Kole Hamilton	Second-Class Lineman I	4	Tommy Shoemake	Staking Technician II	5
Jared Helms	ROW Assistant	2	Sonya Sizemore	Member Service Manager	16
Clifton Henke	Technology Manager	9	Steve Stanley	Aerial Bucket Operator	10
Bart Homeyer	Apprentice Lineman II	4	Charles Stoffer	Apprentice Lineman I	1
Shayne Hons	Equipment Operator	1	Zachary Swierc	Operations Engineer	3
Trentyn Hosek	Apprentice Lineman II	2	Nathan Thiry	First-Class Lineman	1
Troy Hughey	Second Class Lineman II	4	Megan Thompson	Business Development Coordinator	4
Emelia Janysek	Executive Assistant	24	Rudolfo Torres	Construction Foreman	20
Cody Jarzombek	Mechanic II	4	Amanda Turner	Billing Coordinator	11
Justin Jarzombek	Staking Technician II	7	Christopher Vajdos	Meter Technician	14
Steve Jonas	Apparatus and Maintenance Technician	26	Vanessa Villanueva	Assistant Staking Coordinator	5
Hunter Jurgajtis	Operations Supervisor	11	Jason Vyvlecka	Fleet Shop Foreman	2
Teren Jurgajtis	Maintenance Foreman	20	Bonnie Wiatrek	Human Resources Coordinator	42
Glenn Kelley	Aerial Bucket Operator	16	Darlene Woelfel	Senior Accountant	42
Christopher Knight	Distribution Services Manager	12	Robert Zuniga	Safety Coordinator	10

Service Awards

NAME	TITLE	YEARS OF SERVICE
Larry Schendel	Director	55
Frank Geyer	Director	35
Gary Pawelek	First-Class Lineman	35
Sonny Barrientez	Serviceman	30
Rebecca Mueller	Lead Member Service Representative	30
Russell Korzekwa	Engineering Manager	25
Teren Jurgajtis	Maintenance Foreman	20
Rudolpho Torres	Construction Foreman	20
Richard Garcia	Staking Foreman	15
Kevin Palermo	First-Class Lineman	15
Paul Rodriguez	Serviceman	15
Jesse Benavides	Operations Manager	10
David Nieschwitz	Director	10
Clif Royal	Director	10
Steve Stanley	Aerial Bucket Operator	10
Robert Zuniga	Safety Coordinator	10
Jennifer Berger	Member Service Representative II	5
Thomas Kowalik	Building/Grounds Maintenance Technician	5
Leonard McClaugherty	Director	5
Tosha Pennington	Dispatcher	5
Irma Pesqueda	Member Service Representative II	5
Tommy Shoemake	Staking Technician II	5
Vanessa Villanueva	Assistant Staking Coordinator	5

Annual Meeting Program

Thursday, June 11 • 7 p.m. • In-Person Meeting

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Invocation
3. Welcome Address
4. Introduction of Guests
5. Secretary's Report of Number Present/Reading of Official Notice
6. Approval of 2025 Annual Meeting Minutes
7. Election of Directors
8. Naming of Canvassing Committee
9. Treasurer's Report
10. Annual Management Report
11. Unfinished Business
12. New Business
13. Report of Election
14. Adjournment of Meeting
15. Drawing of Attendance Prizes

Walk-Through Meeting begins at 5 p.m.

2025 Minutes

Karnes Electric Cooperative, Inc., Annual Membership Meeting
Karnes City, Texas • June 12, 2025

THE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP Meeting of Karnes Electric Cooperative, Inc. (KEC) was held at the Karnes City ISD Performing Arts Center in Karnes City, Texas, on Thursday, June 12, 2025. Hand delivery of ballots prior to commencement of the Annual Meeting began at 5:00 pm. Members present prior to commencement of the meeting were allowed to cast their vote in the Director Election and view a prerecorded President's Welcome Address, Treasurer's Report and the Annual Management Report.

At 7:00 p.m., Mr. Brysch called the Annual Meeting to order and introduced Minister Thomas Mutz to give the invocation. Mr. Brysch then led the Membership in the presentation of the National Anthem lead by Lauren Homeyer and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Brysch then asked members to turn their attention to the screen for a prerecorded Board introduction and President's Welcome Address. In his address he stated that KEC had a successful year in 2024 and thanked the employees for their leadership and dedication. He mentioned that KEC continues to be impacted by the increased costs of services and materials. As a result, the Board and staff are working with a consultant to evaluate rates and the need for a rate adjustment. The KEC team will continue to optimize operating costs to keep rates as competitive as possible while maintaining safety and reliability. He thanked the Karnes City ISD Board and staff for the use of the facility and thanked the membership for their attendance and support.

Mr. Brysch then called on General Manager Eric Halfmann for the Introduction of Special Guests. Mr. Halfmann recognized all past and present military personnel in attendance and introduced special guests.

Secretary-Treasurer Larry R. Schendel was now given the floor to present the Secretary's Report on Number Present and announced that 218 members were counted toward the quorum for the transaction of business at the Annual Meeting. He then turned the floor back over to Mr. Brysch. For reporting purposes, the final number of members counted toward the quorum was 221 at the close of registration.

Mr. Brysch asked those in attendance if they wished to dispense with the Reading of Official Notice of the Annual Meeting that was published in the June 2025 issue of *Texas Co-op Power* magazine, which was mailed to the membership on May 27, 2025, or have it read now. A motion was made and seconded to dispense with the Reading of Official Notice of the Annual Meeting. Motion carried.

Mr. Brysch then asked those in attendance if they wished to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the June 11, 2024, Annual Meeting, published in the June 2025 issue of *Texas Co-op Power* magazine or have them read now. A motion was made and seconded to dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve them as published. Motion carried.

Counsel for KEC, Melissa Sykes, with the law firm of McGinnis Lochridge LLP, was then given the floor to conduct the Election of Directors. She summarized Article IV, Section 5, of the Bylaws explaining the nomination process for directors. She recognized the Nominating Committee who met on Thursday, April 3, 2025, and nominated the candidates for districts 1 and 4.

Mrs. Sykes then informed the Members that the incumbent directors were nominated for election by the Committee for District No. 1 and District No. 4 and there were no nominations by petition.

Mrs. Sykes then named the members appointed to serve on the 2025 Canvassing Committee and instructed all the voting members to mark their ballots. The ballots were collected by the Canvassing Committee, who then retired to count the votes.

Mr. Brysch then introduced the prerecorded 2024 Treasurer's Report presented by the Secretary Treasurer Larry R. Schendel. Mr. Schendel reported that the Cooperative remains financially sound, ending the year \$121.5 million in revenues and total net margins of \$1.3 million. He shared that KEC refunded capital credits totaling \$1 million increasing the total amount of capital credits returned to members since 1989 to \$24.4 million. He concluded by reporting that KEC continues to maintain competitive electric rates and is in excellent financial condition.

Mr. Brysch then called on General Manager Eric Halfmann to give the Annual Management Report. Mr. Halfmann expressed his appreciation to the Board and Employees for their hard work and dedicated service. He then introduced the prerecorded Annual Management Report. In his report he mentioned that 2024 was a year of many transitions that presented opportunity to grow. He stated that through a focus on team development, employees came together and delivered growth in safety, system improvements, storm response, member satisfaction, and sales all while hitting our financial targets.

Kimberly Sanchez, Member Communications Coordinator, announced in 2024 the cooperative completed an American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI) survey. KEC achieved an ACSI survey score of 89 and was recognized as a top 5 score within the national network of Touchstone Cooperatives in the 3rd quarter of 2024. Mr. Halfmann thanked the membership for their feedback to help us better understand what we are doing well and how we can get better.

Mr. Halfmann discussed the significant increase in cost for all services and materials. He stated that the cooperative has not increased rates in 16 years, since 2009, and is working to complete a cost of service study to determine how much

of a rate increase will be needed. Mr. Halfmann reported that KEC will continue to improve the efficiency of processes to optimize operating costs.

Mrs. Sanchez stated that in 2024, efforts were made to improve system reliability including increasing the utilization of intelligent devices, such as reclosers and smart meters to enhance our system model. She discussed how these changes will result in reducing outage response time, reducing cost of system analysis, and improving reliability. She reported that KEC completed a \$10.5 million work plan including the construction of 536 new connections, 2,297 new poles, the replacement of 689 poles, and 369 miles of right-of-way clearing and tree trimming.

Mr. Halfmann reported that KEC completed a new work plan update that reviewed system performance and load forecast data to ensure we are investing in projects that meet the needs for growth and reliability. He reported that the Loxley substation is scheduled to be energized in 2025. He stated that the substation is a priority project that will enable the cooperative to meet load demand while also improving reliability and creating additional capacity for future growth.

Mrs. Sanchez then explained how KEC has made an impact in the community by partnering with local schools and organizations.

Mrs. Sanchez then mentioned that since 1998, the Cooperative has awarded a total of 308 scholarships, totaling \$372,200. She then recognized the following twenty (20) winners of \$2,500 scholarships for 2025:

Kathryn Borth	Jourdanton ISD
Logan Chansley	Jourdanton ISD
Yoselyn Chimalhua	Poteet ISD
Julie Cooke	Poth ISD
Kianna Cruz	Jourdanton ISD
Austin Dinscore	Pleasanton ISD
Larson Dziuk	Poth ISD
Bila Hernandez	Karnes City ISD
Makayla Janysek	Falls City ISD
Madalyn Little	McMullen County ISD
Lino Lopez	Karnes City ISD
Cecilia Munoz	Poteet ISD
Dylan Mutz	Karnes City ISD
Melanie Mutz	Poth ISD
Kate Phillips	Poth ISD
Jayden Polasek	Falls City ISD
Megan Pullin	Three Rivers ISD
Ella Ruiz	Three Rivers ISD
Jacquelynn Sindt	Three Rivers ISD
Faith Vyvlecka	Jourdanton ISD

Mrs. Sanchez announced the 2025 Government-In-Action Youth Tour winners, Savanna Schuchart from Jourdanton ISD and Alyssa Pawelek from Falls City ISD.

Mrs. Sanchez discussed the weather events that impacted South Texas in 2024 and that KEC was able to provide mutual aid for other cooperatives affected by storm damage.

Mr. Halfmann discussed the cooperative principle of Cooperation Among Cooperatives and the significance of participating in mutual aid efforts. He thanked the linemen for their sacrifice and support.

Mr. Halfmann then reported that KEC has achieved six years of safety excellence and surpassed 1 million man hours worked without a lost time accident.

Mr. Halfmann concluded his report by thanking all KEC employees for their hard work and dedication, the Board for their service, and the Members for the opportunity to serve them.

Mr. Brysch then opened the meeting up for Member comments. Members were asked to limit their comments to five minutes or less. There were no comments from the Members.

Mr. Brysch then asked if there was any Unfinished Business to come before the meeting. There being none, Mr. Brysch asked if there was any New Business.

There being none, Mr. Brysch then called upon Mrs. Sykes for the Report of Election. She reported the official election results:

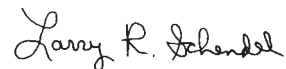
District No. 1 Larry Schendel 203
District No. 4 L. Scott McClaugherty IV 186

There being no further business, upon motion made, seconded, and carried, the meeting adjourned.

Following adjournment of the meeting, a drawing for door prizes was held.



Paul T. Brysch Jr.
President



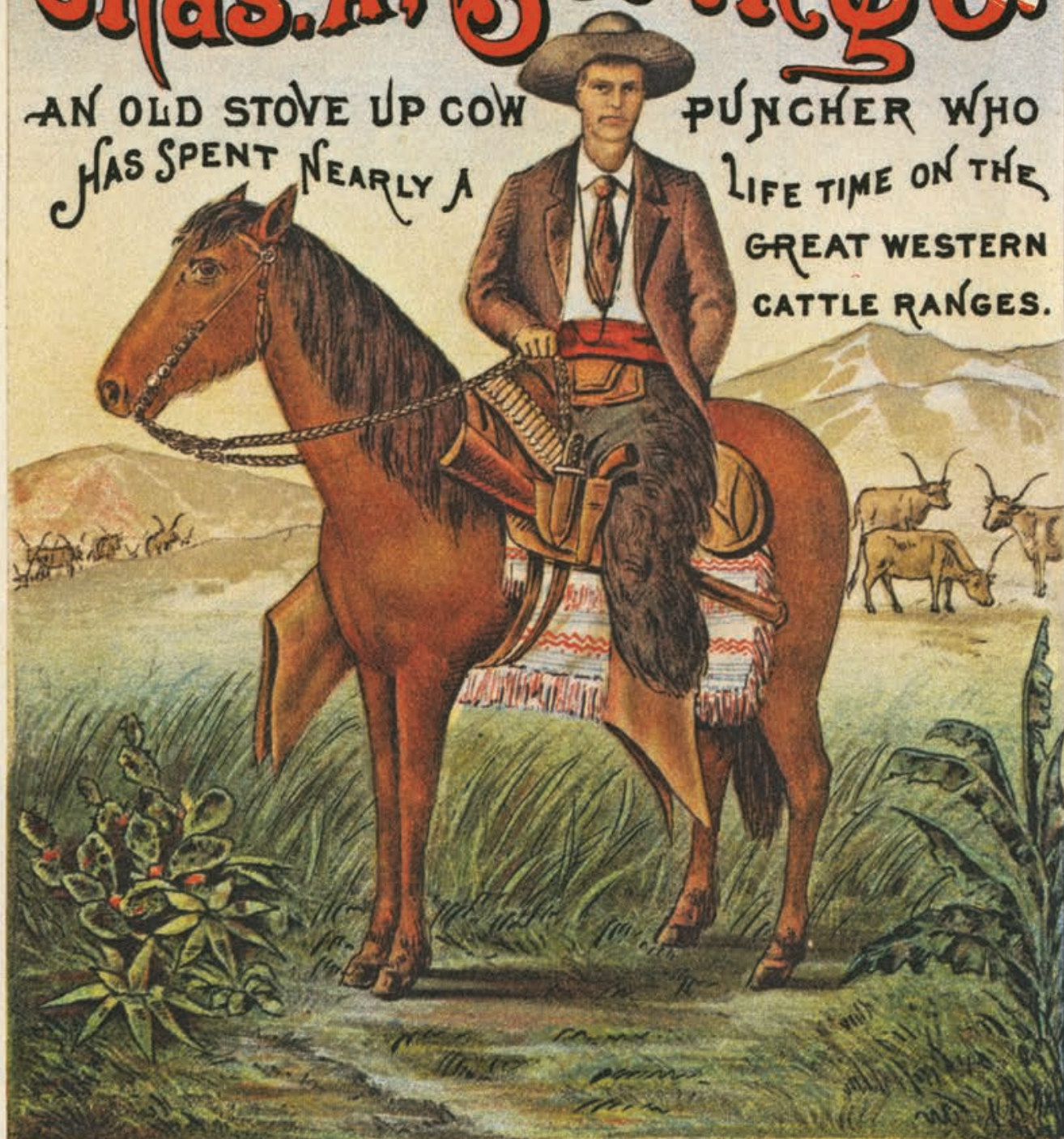
Larry Schendel
Secretary-Treasurer

A TEXAS COW BOY
OR
FIFTEEN YEARS ON THE HURRICANE
DECK OF A SPANISH PONY.
TAKEN FROM REAL LIFE BY

Chas. A. Siringo.

AN OLD STOVE UP COW
HAS SPENT NEARLY A

PUNCHER WHO
LIFE TIME ON THE
GREAT WESTERN
CATTLE RANGES.



Texas: Forever in Your Heart



1. Heart of Texas Women's Hoodie

3. Personalized Heart of Texas Women's Denim Jacket



Hoodie and tote feature a silver-tone Texas charm



2. Heart of Texas Quilted Tote



Denim Jacket Personalized FREE with your name or initials

1. Heart of Texas Women's Hoodie

This cozy ivory hoodie is expertly crafted of an easy-care cotton blend knit and features a detailed image of a cowgirl boot and hat next to the embroidered saying, "You Can Take The Girl Out Of Texas, But You Can't Take The Texas Out Of The Girl." Additional details include fun embroidered accents, soft contrasting taupe jersey knit-lined hood, front hip pockets, full front zipper, knit cuffs and a straight hem for an extra comfortable fit. A silver-tone zipper pull shaped like the State of Texas with a heart cutout completes this classic country girl design. Imported. Available in women's sizes S-3X. *Item price: \$99.99, payable in 3 easy installments of \$33.33 each (plus a total of \$19.99 s + s*) Add \$10 for sizes 1X-3X*

2. Heart of Texas Quilted Tote

This Texas-inspired quilted tote features classic country styling with a sentiment every Texas girl knows by heart. Framed in a bold red bandana print, the front and back feature a cowgirl boot and hat alongside the saying, "You Can Take The Girl Out Of Texas, But You Can't Take The Texas Out Of The Girl." Crafted of soft yet durable high-quality quilted fabric, this tote features a roomy interior with one zippered pocket and two slip pockets, along with a zippered closure. A silver-tone charm showcasing the silhouette of Texas with a heart cutout adds a perfect finishing touch to this versatile dual-handle tote. Imported. *Item price: \$79.99, payable in 3 easy installments of \$26.66 each (plus a total of \$19.99 s + s*)*

3. Personalized Heart of Texas Women's Denim Jacket

Beautifully crafted of durable, medium-wash cotton-blend stretch denim, this jacket features a bold outline of the Lone Star State with bandana-inspired accents beneath a classic Western yoke—finished with the sentiment, "Forever a Texas Girl." A gold embroidered heart and white embroidered accents add to the look. The front of the jacket is personalized FREE with your monogram or full name (max 12 characters). Additional design details for this flattering and roomy jacket include two flap chest pockets with silver-tone button closures, two hip pockets, an adjustable hem and cuffs and a full button-front closure. Imported. Available in women's sizes S-3X. *Item price: \$149.99, payable in 4 easy installments of \$37.50 each (plus a total of \$19.99 s+s*) Add \$10 for sizes 1X-3X*

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2. Heart of Texas Quilted Tote 01-44510-001
3. Personalized Heart of Texas Women's Denim Jacket 01-44612-001 Size _____

Jacket and Hoodie available in women's sizes Small (6-8) Medium (10-12) Large (14-16) XL (18) 1XL (20) 2XL (22) 3XL (24)

STEP 2. Add your name or initials FOR DENIM JACKET ONLY (Up to 12 characters MAX):

Check here if you do NOT want personalization

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Mrs. Mr. Ms. _____

Name (Please Print Clearly)

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

E-mail _____

*See bradfordexchange.com for information on all that is included in your one-time shipping and service charge. Please allow 4-8 weeks after initial payment for shipment. Sales subject to product availability and order acceptance.

E54801



Go the Other Way

Eastern Central Texas' hill country also has plenty of wildflowers, rolling hills and history

BY W.F. STRONG • ILLUSTRATION BY CHRIS WORMELL

A GREAT MANY TEXANS set off for the Hill Country to enjoy the splendor of the wildflowers over the past couple of months. The blooms light up the hills and roadsides with carpets of vibrant color.

But I want to suggest that you consider the other hill country, composed of a gentler, less dramatic topography—one that also offers wildflowers galore and winding roads but has the advantage of being far less traveled.

You start in the small eastern Central Texas hamlet of Clay, between Brenham and Bryan, on FM 50, heading south. Here, you will encounter the first hill rising off the flatlands into a changing ecosystem. You can see the gentle rise sweep across

the land like a stationary wave, from left to right.

Once you get into Independence, which changed its name from Cole's Settlement around 1836 to honor Texas' freedom from Mexico, take a right on FM 390 and stay on that road almost all the way to Burton.

This is a famous scenic drive that passes through the old ghost town of Gay Hill. Wildflowers are often bountiful here. From Burton, continue on U.S. Highway 290 for a few miles and pick up State Highway 237 to Round Top.

Round Top was part of Stephen F. Austin's original colony. The town took its name from an octagonal tower

TCP Listen as W.F. Strong narrates this story on our website.



constructed there in stagecoach days. Since the 1960s it's been known as a mecca for antique lovers. What I appreciate most about the road from Round Top to La Grange are the white fences that curve along emerald green pastures.

Once you get into La Grange on State Highway 159, you'll take a left on U.S. Highway 77, climb the big hill and head south out of town, crossing the Colorado River. La Grange is probably best known for the Chicken Ranch brothel, which ZZ Top and reporter Marvin Zindler made famous in the 1970s—or perhaps infamous. It's long gone, of course.

Just 4 miles down that road, you'll take a right on County Road 2436. Look to your left and, quite soon, you'll see the largest lawn mower graveyard you've ever seen. That's Keith's Lawnmower Repair. I'm not sure it's a good advertisement for Keith's skills, but maybe it's an endorsement of his genius as a seller of new mowers.

This road dead-ends into FM 609, where you'll take a left. Here, the hills get bigger and the wildflowers more robust.

Watch for a shed painted in the colors of the Texas flag, off to the left. It's magnificently situated among wildflowers—as if the shed is posing for you.

It won't be long before you will arrive in Flatonia, which isn't particularly flat (it was named for pioneer settler F.W. Flato). In Flatonia, pick up State Highway 95 headed south toward Shiner. On this stretch, you'll enjoy more rural roads, gentle hills and wildflowers, including panoramic views off to the west.

End your drive with a Shiner Bock at the oldest independent brewery in Texas. After a two-hour drive through wildflower country, you've earned a bock or two. ■

The Art of the Sandwich

Warm your heart with a meal dressed in layers

BY VIANNEY RODRIGUEZ, FOOD EDITOR

All my favorite things—brisket, butter, Texas toast and cheese— together in perfectly delicious harmony makes for one happy señorita. Whenever my husband cooks up a brisket, I always tuck away some in the freezer to whip up these sandwiches. Pair this sandwich with a glass of wine, an icy cold beer or a frozen margarita.

Brisket Grilled Cheese Sandwich

4 tablespoons (½ stick) butter, softened
4 slices thick-sliced white bread (often labeled Texas toast)
8 ounces sharp cheddar cheese, grated or sliced
16 ounces diced, cooked brisket, room temperature

1. Butter one side of each slice of bread.
2. On the unbuttered side of 2 bread slices, layer half the cheddar, brisket and other half of cheddar. Top with two remaining bread slices, butter side out, to make sandwiches.
3. Heat a large skillet over medium-high heat. Cook sandwiches 3–4 minutes on each side, or until both sides are golden brown.
4. Remove sandwiches from skillet, slice in half and serve warm.

SERVES 2

TCP Follow Vianney Rodriguez as she cooks in *Cocina Gris* at sweetlifebake.com, where she features a recipe for Mini Chorizo con Papa y Huevo Breakfast Sandwiches.





Grilled Strawnana Hazelnut Sandwich

LISA CASIMIR
COSERV

Grab a few napkins and get ready to sink your teeth into the sweetest twist on the classic PB&J. I love a peanut butter sammy, but the combination of berries and banana with chocolate hazelnut is everything I didn't know I needed!

- 1/3 cup chocolate hazelnut spread, such as Nutella**
- 4 slices sourdough bread**
- 1 cup strawberries, thinly sliced**
- 2 bananas, thinly sliced**
- 2 tablespoons (1/4 stick) butter**

1. Spread hazelnut spread on one side of each slice of sourdough. Top two slices with strawberries. Top the other two slices with bananas.
2. Stack bread to make two sandwiches, pairing one strawberry-topped slice with one banana-topped slice, and evenly spread butter on each side of sandwiches.
3. Heat a skillet over medium-high heat. Cook sandwiches, covered, 3 minutes on each side, or until bread is lightly toasted.
4. Slice in half and serve warm.

SERVES 2

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28 >



\$500 WINNER

Muffuletta

BETTY HERZIK
FAYETTE EC



A briny olive spread combines with a smorgasbord of cold cuts and cheese to create a mouth-watering BIG bite of a sandwich, and I am in love. The food processor does all the heavy lifting in this recipe, then the sandwich gets wrapped in foil and baked until warm. I cannot wait to make this sandwich again and again.

- 1 jar giardiniera (16 ounces), drained**
- 1/2 of 10-ounce jar pimiento-stuffed Spanish queen olives, drained**
- 1/2 of 10-ounce jar sliced Kalamata olives, drained**

- 1/2 cup extra-virgin olive oil**
- 1 loaf ciabatta bread, sliced horizontally**
- 1/4 cup red wine vinegar**
- 1 tablespoon dried oregano**
- 8 ounces sliced Black Forest ham**
- 4 ounces sliced hard salami**
- 4 ounces sliced mortadella**
- 8 ounces sliced provolone cheese**

COOK'S TIP: The sandwich may be refrigerated overnight (wrapped in aluminum foil). If doing this, take it out of the refrigerator about 45 minutes before baking. Increase the baking time to 20–22 minutes.

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees. In a food processor, combine giardiniera, olives and oil and pulse until a uniform mixture forms. Brush both cut sides of bread with vinegar and sprinkle with oregano.
2. Place bottom half of the loaf on a piece of aluminum foil large enough to wrap around the entire sandwich. Layer meats and provolone on bread. Top with olive mixture. Place top half of bread on sandwich and wrap foil around sandwich.
3. Place wrapped sandwich on a baking sheet and bake 15–17 minutes, until thoroughly heated. Remove foil, slice into individual portions and serve.

SERVES 6

TCP \$500 Recipe Contest

CRANBERRY HARVEST DUE JUN 10

Cranberries can add a tart fall touch to pastries, salads, drinks and desserts. Come November we'll share the best from Co-op Country and award \$500 for the top recipe.

UPCOMING: HOLIDAY TRADITIONS DUE JUL 10



Bridget's Sandwiches

LYNETT RATCHFORD
BLUEBONNET EC

These easy sandwiches have it all: sweet slices of ham, gooey Swiss cheese, and rolls that stay soft and fluffy on the inside with a perfectly toasted top. The secret is marinating them overnight in a savory butter sauce. They are delicious and a great dish for making in advance.

- 24 Hawaiian sweet rolls**
- 16 ounces sliced ham**
- 16 ounces sliced Swiss cheese**
- ½ cup (1 stick) butter**
- ½ teaspoon poppy seeds**
- 1 tablespoon minced onion**
- ½ teaspoon steak sauce**
- ½ tablespoon yellow mustard**

1. Slice rolls in half and arrange bottom halves in a baking dish. Layer with ham and Swiss. Place top halves of the rolls over cheese.
2. In a saucepan over medium-high heat,



melt butter. Add poppy seeds, onion, steak sauce and mustard and cook 1 minute. Pour mixture over sandwiches, spreading evenly.

3. Cover baking dish with aluminum foil and refrigerate overnight.
4. Preheat oven to 350 degrees and bake sandwiches, still covered by foil, 10 minutes. Remove foil and cook 10 minutes uncovered. Serve warm.

SERVES 6

Hacks for Your Stacks

Great sandwiches are all about high-quality ingredients and technique. Here are some secrets from my kitchen.

USE THOSE LEFTOVERS

Last night's shredded or roasted chicken or pork loin transform into a tasty lunch.

NO MAYO, NO PROBLEM

Pesto, ranch dip, hummus or sour cream with hot sauce can easily fill in for mayonnaise.

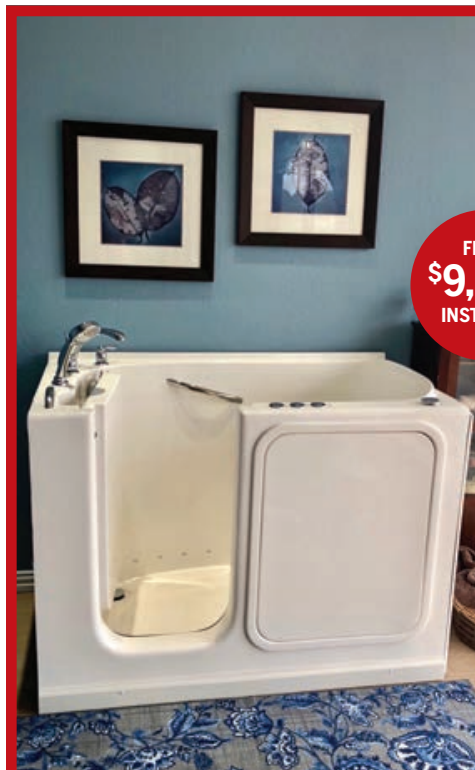
SEASON YOUR TOMATOES

Please! A little salt and pepper go a long way. And slice them with a serrated knife for the cleanest cut.

DON'T HOLD THE HERBS

Make your sandwich pop with a sprinkle of fresh dill, thyme or basil.

—Vianney Rodriguez



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Morgan Silver Dollars Are Among the Most Iconic Coins in U.S. History

What makes them iconic? The Morgan Silver Dollar is the legendary coin that built the Wild West. It exemplifies the American spirit like few other coins, and was created using silver mined from the famous Comstock Lode in Nevada. In fact, when travelers approached the mountains around the boomtown of Virginia City, Nevada in the 1850s, they were startled to see the hills shining in the sunlight like a mirror. A mirage caused by weary eyes? No, rather

the effect came from tiny flecks of silver glinting in the sun.

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COURTESY CASEY CHAPMAN ROSS

Play Time on the Prairie

The 'Fort Griffin Fandangle' is a spectacle like no other

BY CHET GARNER

I ARRIVED IN ALBANY, northeast of Abilene, just as the summer heat began to loosen its grip and the sky softened to a dusty pastel. I took my seat in the open-air Prairie Theater with 1,000 other folks who had all made the pilgrimage to witness the oldest outdoor musical in the state: the *Fort Griffin Fandangle*. The place was buzzing with anticipation, and I could see hundreds of costumed performers waiting in the ranks as saddled horses trotted offstage.

This was Albany's Super Bowl, and it was almost game time. Every year, a cast of 250 performers, horses, longhorns and a robotic snake rehearse for months in preparation for the last two weeks in June, when *Fandangle* takes the stage. The shows are June 19–20 and 26–27 this year.

The tradition goes back to 1938, when Robert Nail Jr., a high school teacher and amateur playwright, penned a musical about the history of Shackelford County. Nearly 90 years later, it's still going strong.

For the next few hours, I watched neighbors become pioneers, soldiers, ranchers and Comanche warriors, telling their collective story through songs, dance and a few gunfights. The narration carried us through settlement, struggle and celebration, but the real magic came from the sheer number of people involved—kids, parents, grandparents—sometimes three generations sharing the same spotlight.

There's something incredibly charming about knowing the singing cowboy or cancan dancer could be the local custodian, lawyer or barista. It was meaningful when it needed to be and at times completely ridiculous.

As the last song rang out across the prairie and the cast took their final bows, I felt like I had witnessed something deeply personal for Albany but also important for everyone. To quote its creator, Mr. Nail, "You can never be who you're supposed to be until you know who you've been." ■

ABOVE A cast of 200-plus stages the *Fort Griffin Fandangle* in Albany, continuing a tradition that goes back to 1938.

TCP Watch the video on our website and see all of Chet's Explorations on *The Daytripper* on PBS.



Know Before You Go

Call ahead or check an event's website for scheduling details, and check our website for many more upcoming events.

JUNE

10

Snyder [10–13] West Texas Western Swing Festival, (325) 573-3558, snyderchamber.org

11

Abilene [11–14] Children's Art + Literacy Festival, (325) 677-1161, abilenecalf.com

13

Fredericksburg Luckenbach School Open House, (830) 685-3321, historicschools.org

Jacksonville Tomato Fest, (903) 586-2217, jacksonvilletexas.com

Mason Hot Dog & Hot Rod Night, (325) 347-5758, mason.tx.org

Seguin [13–July 10] Red, White and Blue Art Show, (830) 305-0472, seguinartleague.com

Grapevine [13–August 30] Dinosaur Quest, (817) 410-3185, grapevinetexasusa.com

17

Fairfield Tea With Miss Texas, (903) 389-5792, fairfieldtexaschamber.com

18

Corsicana [18–21, 25–28] The Drowning Girls, (903) 872-5421, thewlac.com

20

Dallas Showtime Saturday: Hot Toast Music Company, (972) 702-7100, galleriadallas.com

Garland Juneteenth Celebration, (972) 205-2749, visitgarlandtx.com

Sherman Juneteenth Celebration, (469) 715-7471, bit.ly/shermanjuneteenth

23

Fort Worth [23-28] The Notebook, (817) 212-4280, basshall.com

25

Levelland [25-27] Golden Spread Classic, (806) 759-1102, goldenspreadclassic.com

27

Van Freedom Boom, (903) 963-7216, vantx.gov

JULY

3

Eagle Lake Freedom Festival, (979) 234-2640, coeltx.net

Fairfield Fireworks at the Fairgrounds, (903) 389-5792, fairfieldtexaschamber.com

Palestine [3-4] America 250: A Star-Spangled Jubilee, 1-800-659-3484, visitpalestine.com

Snyder [3-4] July 4th Celebration, (325) 573-3558, snyderchamber.org

4

Corsicana Freedom Fest, (903) 654-4850, visitcorsicana.com

Giddings Firemen's July 4th Celebration, (979) 542-3455, giddingstx.com

Lakehills Independence Day Parade, (830) 612-1034, bit.ly/post0410bbq

Point Blank America 250, (281) 757-0682, usa250-pb.com

TCP *Submit Your Event*

We pick events for the magazine directly from TexasCoopPower.com. Submit your September event by July 1, and it just might be featured in this calendar.



Quaerite et Invenietis

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Photography from a lifetime of travel
by Bobby Greeson

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Upper Antelope Canyon, fine art giclée print, 2025, 12" x 19", Bobby Greeson

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Rare Blade Discovered Has the Collector's World Spinning

At Stauer, we go to the ends of the Earth to find the rare and exceptional. That's why we're proud to present the **10-inch Damascus Spiral Knife**.

Its 5-inch Damascus steel blade, shaped like a cyclone, recalls the legendary swords crafted over a thousand years ago. Renowned for holding a razor-sharp edge while staying both strong and flexible, Damascus steel is easily recognized by its distinctive wave-like pattern. Though the original method was lost to time, modern metal smiths have recreated its beauty and strength.

Paired with a buffalo horn handle and exquisite tooling, this spiraling blade is as alluring as it is unique. For the cutlery collector who craves the rare and one-of-a-kind, the Damascus Spiral Knife is unlike anything else in the world.

Knife Specifications:

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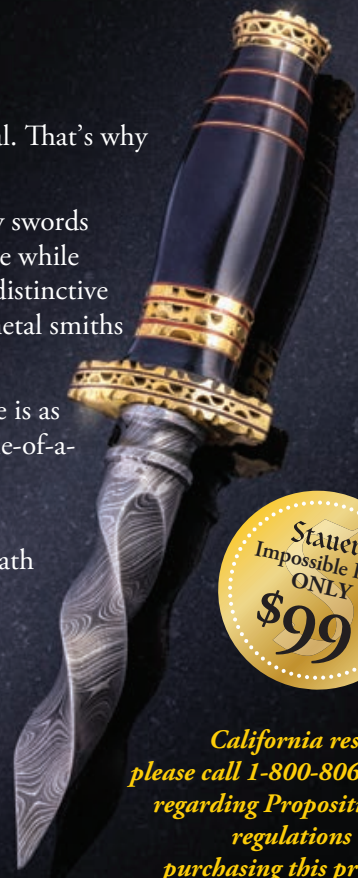
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1 RAY BEDNAR
BLUEBONNET EC
A painted bunting bathing.

2 FRANKI SALDIVAR
J-A-C EC
“I was able to photograph bears in Alaska in the fall of 2022.”

3 LAUREN MCCLAIN
PENTEX ENERGY
“Wild and free, this 4-year-old lives life to the fullest.”

4 PAUL GARCIA
MEDINA EC
“I just happened to catch this cardinal taking a bath in my home’s birdbath.”



Upcoming Contests

- TAILGATING** DUE JUN 10
- RIDE THE RAILS** DUE JUL 10
- CHRISTMAS FAILS** DUE AUG 10



ENTER ONLINE

TCP See Focus on Texas on our website for many more Making a Splash photos from readers.



Papa Hits His Stride

Fatherhood becomes grand when you get a second go

BY MARK TROTH

ILLUSTRATION BY
URAN DUO

GENERATION GAPS CAN BE measured in years but also in opinions and outlooks.

And as parents continue a decades-long trend of having children later in life, I wonder what will become of the growing gap between grandchildren and their grandparents. After all, a 60-year age difference between a Baby Boomer and his grandkids (I was a child of the 1960s) is bound to create more difficulty in finding common ground.

My dad was a hardworking, principled man of few words and a strong code of ethics. I didn't challenge him often. Serious father-son conversations usually assured a quiet peace. Though as he aged, Dad mellowed, especially with my children. And now that I'm the next generational Papa, it all makes perfect sense to me.

After retiring in 2023, my wife, Mary, and I relocated to Washington County—just an hour commute to the grandkids. We touch base daily and get together often, but the most special times are when they visit us in Chappell Hill for holidays or long weekends.

With these extended stays, I can play the grandfather role 24/7 and share my pearls of wisdom, old jokes and timeless stories that are, of course, always new to them. My son and daughter just roll their eyes.

Not unlike my dad, I bring a renewed patience and tolerance to my grandkids that may have been a bit lacking with my own children. As a father, work pressure, financial obligations and just plain life often got in the way.

Now, we are second in line with regard to child-raising responsibility. Mary and I assist, advise, support, nourish, teach and console—but rarely mandate.

Ten years now into full grandparent mode, my elder wisdom serves me well. I'm the peacemaker between siblings and cousins, the answerer to boundless questions, the blocks and puzzles play partner on the floor (getting back up is the hard part), the safety foot on the Kubota pedal while they steer, the fishing partner who takes the perch off the hook, the positive "get 'em next time" coach, a second—perhaps more seasoned and sympathetic—ear when they're troubled, and any other role that needs filling.

Yet I must be cautious to always support and respect my son's and daughter's parental initiatives.

If there is a generational gap with our grandchildren, Mary and I have bridged it with a circle of life and love. It is a second chance for Papa and Mimi to get it right.

It's been said, "Dearer than our children are the children of our children." Is there anything more grand than that? ■

Member Registration Card

Karnes Electric Cooperative
88th Annual Membership Meeting
Thursday, June 11, 2026

Walk-Through Noon–7 p.m. | In-Person Meeting 7–8 p.m.
Karnes City ISD Performing Arts Center
400 N. Highway 123, Karnes City, TX 78118



Join us for our annual meeting and take advantage of your chance to win exciting door prizes.

OVER 60 DOOR PRIZES AVAILABLE!

The first 350 members who register will receive a \$25 bill credit.

Please tear off this card and bring it with you to the annual meeting. It serves as your registration card and ticket for prize drawings.

KARNES ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Official Voting Representative Credential

If you are the designated representative of a member company, corporation, firm, organization or estate, you will need this completed form to cast that member's vote. The form must be signed by an officer or executor of the member company, corporation, firm, organization or estate, and the title must be designated.

Please print or type your information below.

FIRM

ACCOUNT NUMBER

ADDRESS

The following are hereby certified as official voting representatives of the above member-organization to represent it at the annual meeting, any specially called meeting or for any vote brought to the membership of the cooperative. We understand that the alternate is certified to act only in the absence of the voting representative.

VOTING REPRESENTATIVE

ALTERNATE

SIGNED

TITLE

DATE

This form remains valid until Karnes EC is notified of any change.

Registration Card

For use at the 2026 Annual Membership Meeting



88th Annual Membership Meeting

Please bring both parts of this card with you to the 88th Annual Membership Meeting. After you submit your vote at the meeting, you can exchange this portion of the card for your game day gift bag.

I hereby certify that I am a member of Karnes Electric Cooperative in personal attendance at the above meeting. I understand that only a member present is eligible to vote and receive an attendance prize.

MEMBER SIGNATURE

MEMBER PRINTED NAME

Please tear off this card and bring it with you to the annual meeting. It serves as your registration card and ticket for prize drawings.

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Cliff Royal
Secretary-Treasurer



Frank A. Geyer Jr.
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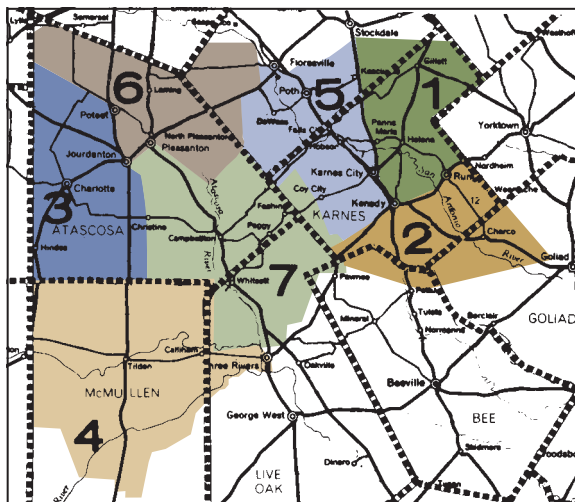


Larry R. Schendel



Boyd Vaughan

Director Districts



Director Nominees

DISTRICT 3

Frank A. Geyer Jr.

DISTRICT 7

David R. Nieschwitz

DISTRICT	DIRECTOR	TERM EXPIRES
1	Larry R. Schendel	2028
2	Boyd Vaughan	2027
3	Frank A. Geyer Jr.	2026
4	L. Scott McClagherty IV	2028
5	Paul T. Brysch Jr.	2027
6	Cliff Royal	2027
7	David R. Nieschwitz	2026