

ELEC - O - NEWS

Annual Meeting to be Held on April 7, 2016

Attending the Upshur Rural Electric Annual Meeting is a great way to be actively involved in your Cooperative.

At the Annual Meeting, you will have the opportunity to meet our Board of Directors and Cooperative staff. You will learn about Upshur Rural Electric's plans for the future as well

as hear reports regarding this past year. You will also have a chance to enjoy some snacks, hear some good music and take part in our door prize giveaways.

Instead of voting for your Board of Directors in person at the meeting, our by-laws allow member-owners to vote by ballot prior to

the meeting. When you receive your ballot in the mail in late March, simply complete the ballot, tear off the ballot and return it in the postage-paid envelope that is provided. Members who return their ballots by the "Early Bird" deadline will be entered into a drawing for a \$150 credit on your electric bill.

Our Annual Meeting will be held in the auditorium of the Upshur Rural Electric office in Gilmer which is at 1200 W. Tyler Street. The registration and entertainment will begin at noon, and the meeting will begin at 1:30 p.m. We hope to see you there!



Scholarships For Seniors

Upshur Rural Electric strives to provide quality service as well as provide support in our communities. One example of our commitment is our scholarship program. Upshur Rural will award 34 scholarships this May to graduating seniors.

Applications are available from school counselors, at our office or off our website at www.urecc.coop.

Deadline to submit an application is April 15, 2016.




Upshur Rural Electric is teaming up with KLTV Channel 7 in sponsoring Project Tornado. We want our members to be safe as tornado season approaches! Mark Scirto will be traveling to area schools teaching students about tornado safety.

Thank You!

March brought an abundance of rainfall causing many creeks, rivers and lakes to overflow. Needless to say, it was a month we won't soon forget! We would like to say "thank you" to all our members that experienced outages during the storms. Your support and patience as we worked round the clock to restore service was greatly appreciated.



Left is one of our linemen, Terry Jones, changing out a transformer. Due to the wet, soggy ground, he couldn't get his truck to the pole, and he had to change out the transformer the old fashioned way! At right is the water coming across Hwy. 1795.

Windridge Therapeutic Equestrian Center Gets New Lighting

Upshur Rural Electric Cooperative along with their vendors UtiliGrid Sales, LLC , E-lite Star and Wholesale Electric Supply recently completed an upgrade to the lighting at Windridge Therapeutic Equestrian Center. UtiliGrid Sales in The Woodlands and their manufacturer E-lite Star in Pomona, CA donated enough LED bay lights to convert all of the stable lighting from fluorescent to LED . Upshur Rural Electric provided the manpower to install all of the fixtures. “The new lighting in the stables is awesome” said Margo Dewkett, Founder and Director of Windridge. “The old lighting was unreliable. At times the fluorescent lights would not even come on. The new LED fixtures come on every time the switch is flipped and they are much more energy efficient than the old lights.” In addition to upgrading the stable lights, Wholesale Electric Supply in Texarkana donated LED dusk to dawn lights that Upshur Rural Electric also installed. The new fixtures light up the areas all around the stables. “We are so grateful to Upshur Rural Electric for providing the labor to install all the fixtures and for getting the lights donated. We also would like to say a huge thank you to UtiliGrid Sales, E-lite Star and Wholesale Electric for taking the time to come visit our facility, see the need and then follow through with their generous donations!”



Pictured L-R: Andy Meyer, UtiliGrid Sales, Margo Dewkett, Founder and Director at Windridge and Chris Young, URECC Engineer.



Pictured L-R: Mike Chevalier, URECC Inventory Control , Randy Bearden, Wholesale Electric Supply and Dawn Martin, Windridge Executive Assistant.



Windridge Therapeutic Equestrian Center strives to enhance the quality of life for children, adults and veterans with disabilities or mental health needs through equine-assisted activities and therapy programs. More information about Windridge and the programs they provide can be found on their website at windridgetexas.org.



April is National Lineman Appreciation Month

Upshur Rural Electric proudly recognizes all electric linemen for the services they perform around the clock in dangerous conditions to keep power flowing and protect the public's safety. “Our lineworkers are the first responders of our electric distribution system, and they work around the clock on high-voltage lines,” said Rob Walker, General Manager. “Conditions can be dangerous, but they power through to ensure reliable service for our members.”

Upshur Rural Electric invites members to take a moment and thank a lineman for the work they do!