

Karen Culpepper
President

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hello spring and so long winter. Have you looked at your spring "To Do" list or perhaps you have not started your list? Here are some things we would encourage you to place on your list. It is time to exercise not for physical fitness but to exercise our voice as a voter. We have the primary voting in our rearview and are traveling forward to Primary Runoff's, May 24, 2022, and General Election, November 8, 2022. There could also be other local elections taking place to exercise your voice. So, get that exercise program for your health and your rights on that "To Do" list.

Have you heard of Tah-Wah-Karro Creek or about a settlement that originated under the Lone Star flag of the Republic of Texas in



1844? Well, I suggest you add a little Google search to that list and find out where in Texas our TEC 2022 Annual Meeting will take place. In the meantime, save the date for July 31-August 3, 2022.

We are so excited that our TEC Annual meeting will take place this year. This TEC/TREWA annual gathering has been and will always be the highlight of our fundraising efforts. It is true that the driving force of electric cooperatives is to serve its members and we are excited we get to see each those smiling faces this year.

TREWA continues to support our Youth Tour, Scholarships and Rural Friends/ACRE. We want to get going on our list by reaching out to all our talented Cooperative members across the state and ask for donations to our Arts and Crafts Fundraiser for 2022. Handcrafted, custom made, homemade, you gifted folks know who you are, and we would be so grateful for your donated items. These items will benefit our silent auction as well as the arts and crafts sale.

Another item to add to that list is to join or renew your TREWA membership in July. You may visit our website at TREWA.org and check out "The Lamplighter" for your membership application.

I have added several things to my list already and one of those is to make sure to send out another reminder in May to all of you. So, get busy adding to and checking off items on your list. I hope one of those pertains to TREWA.

God's speed,
Karen Culpepper

Safety & Efficiency

We Trees, Too.

We know everyone in our community enjoys the beauty and shade trees provide. But trees and power lines can be a dangerous mix without regular trimming during the growing season.



If you see us out in the community trimming, remember the many benefits it brings:

- Keeps power lines clear of tree limbs
- Helps us restore power outages more quickly
- Keeps crews and members of our community safe
- Reduces unexpected costs for repairs

Trimming improves service reliability for you, the members we serve.



Plant Trees Safely

Before you dig, call 811 to locate buried utility lines.

LOW TREE ZONE

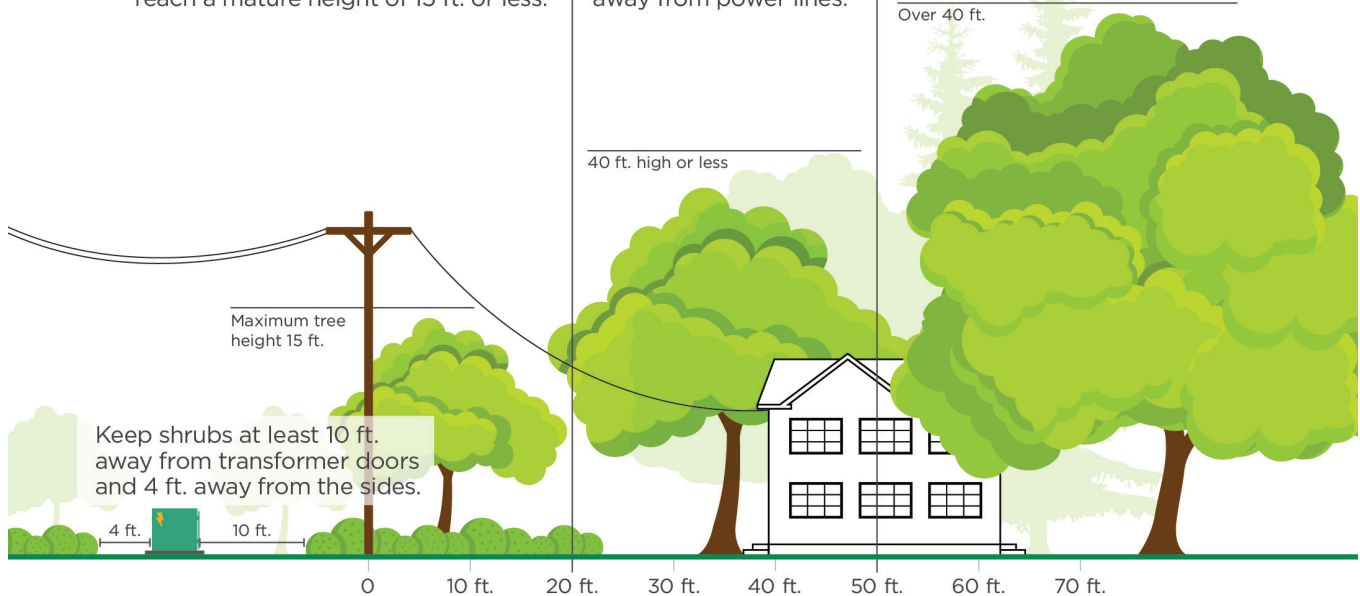
Avoid planting within 20 ft. of power lines. If planting is unavoidable, only plant shrubs and small trees that reach a mature height of 15 ft. or less.

MEDIUM TREE ZONE

Plant medium trees (under 40 ft. when mature) at least 25 ft. away from power lines.

LARGE TREE ZONE

Plant large trees (over 40 ft. when mature) at least 50 ft. away from power lines.



COOPERATIVE HISTORY SERIES

The ancestor to our modern vacuum cleaner was a “carpet sweeper” invented in 1860 by Daniel Hess of West Union, Iowa. The non-motorized machine used a complex system of bellows for suction and spinning brushes to pick up dirt.

A slight improvement on the original design was patented in 1865 by Ives McGaffey of Chicago. His invention was hand crank-operated, which made it unwieldy to use, as one had to turn the crank and push the machine across the carpet at the same time.

In 1901, Englishman H. Cecil Booth invented a large machine called a suction cleaner. It was powered by an internal combustion engine that ran on gas, and the monstrosity had to be mounted to a horse-drawn cart, and later, an automobile, to be transported from place to place. Booth found a receptive clientele among British nobility, which inspired others to improve upon his design.

These early vacuum cleaners did not appeal to the average consumer due to their bulky designs, loud operation, and the odor produced by their exhaust systems. But over the years, enterprising people from around the world fiddled with various suction-cleaning concepts, contributing to gradual improvements.

But then, a breakthrough! In the 1920s, an Ohio janitor named James Murray Spangler created a carpet sweeping contraption out of a soap box, a broom handle, a pillowcase, and an electric motor. He then began to sell his machine to local housewives. One of these housewives was a woman named Susan Hoover. (You might recognize the name!) Her husband, William, invested in the mass production of Spangler’s machine and eventually purchased the rights to the design. He named his company Hoover’s Electric Suction Sweeper Company.

The first plastic vacuum cleaner was produced in the 1930s, and the precursor to modern central vac systems was created in 1952 by the Hoover Company, whose name was now synonymous with “vacuuming”.



By the 1960s, vacuum cleaners were much more lightweight and easy to use. The Oreck Corporation produced a uniquely portable model for the hotel industry, and in response to demand from hotel housekeepers, began marketing it to the public.

All of the designs since the first Hoover had used bags to collect the dust and debris suctioned away from carpets. But in the 1970s, James Dyson conceived of a different way of doing things. He thought the vacuum cleaner would benefit from dispensing with the bags altogether. Five thousand one hundred and twenty-seven prototypes later, Dyson unveiled his Dual Cyclone Machine in 1993. Bagless technology was a huge hit with the public. Fast forward to today, and the majority of vacuums sold are the bagless type.

But the bagless vacuum was not the last innovation to disrupt the household cleaning market. In 1996, the first robotic vacuum cleaner was manufactured by Electrolux of Sweden. This serviceable gadget captured the attention of consumers, but ultimately was discontinued because of the ineffectiveness of its early sensors, causing it to collide with other items.

In 2002 the first Roomba was produced by the iRobot company. This robotic vacuum can change directions to avoid colliding with household furniture. Its sensors can detect debris on the floor and keep it from falling down stairs. Only time will tell if robotic vacuums may someday replace manually operated ones, but one thing is for sure: the vacuum cleaner is still evolving!

(Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress)

Mark Your Calendars

APRIL 2022

APRIL 11 - LINEMAN APPRECIATION DAY

APRIL 15 - GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 17 - EASTER

MAY 2022

ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH

MAY 8 - MOTHER'S DAY

MAY 30 - MEMORIAL DAY

JUNE 2022

JUNE 19 - FATHER'S DAY





A new grassroots advocacy program by NRECA called Voices for Cooperative Power. VCP brings together a network of electric co-op members sharing the needs of their communities with elected officials. This program helps members engage with policymakers and advocate for their energy future.

VCP is a place for those who want to influence policy decisions impacting electric co-ops and their consumer-members. Members come together to communicate this perspective and protect our co-ops' ability to deliver affordable, reliable services.

Speaking up on issues that impact electric co-ops sends a message to elected officials about the needs of our communities – and their constituencies. VCP gives you a platform to talk about the many ways your electric co-op supports your community. Beyond delivering electricity, co-ops provide jobs, stability, and economic growth – all while ensuring that energy affordability and reliability remain foundational advantages of electric co-op membership.

Check out the website voicesforcooperativepower.com for more information and how you can get involved.



Rural friends/ACRE supports legislators who have not only demonstrated an understanding of the unique role electric cooperatives have played in the development of rural communities, but who have also been recognized for their communities to represent the rural interests of electric cooperatives and their members.

Rural Friends/ACRE was formed with the mission of making the voice of electric co-op consumers heard in the Texas Legislature and U.S. Congress. Rural Friends of Electric Cooperatives is the nonpartisan political action committee that supports candidates seeking election to the Texas Legislature. It operates under a set of bylaws and the policies of a board of directors composed of electric co-op leaders elected from around the state. ACRE - the Action Committee for Rural Electrification - supports candidates for the U.S. Congress. Rural Friends and ACRE are subject to all state and federal campaign finance laws and reporting requirements.

Membership is strictly voluntary and consists of persons who have an interest in preserving and defending our local electric co-ops. Rural Friends/ACRE raises personal, voluntary contributions from supporters who care about our co-ops and the communities we serve.

Contributions go to candidates for state and federal office who have demonstrated support for electric co-op goals, who share co-op values and who want electric co-ops to be successful. Support is based on voting records on legislation affecting electric co-ops, statements on co-op issues, and historical stances on those issues.

Joining is Easy. Simply fill out and mail the form below along with your check to add your voice to those electric co-op leaders who are "making a difference" for electric co-ops in Austin and Washington, D. C.

Rural Friends/ACRE Membership Form

Name: _____ Occupation: _____

Home Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Cooperative: _____ E-mail address: _____

I am a cooperative: Director Manager Employee Attorney Other _____

Are you a member of an electric cooperative? Yes No

Select yearly membership: \$25 \$50 \$100 Century Club \$150 Century Club Plus \$500 President's Club

Enclosed are my membership dues in the amount of \$ _____.

Please payroll deduct my dues. (If offered by your cooperative.)

Please add my dues to my monthly electric bill. (If offered by your cooperative.)

Signature

Date

Contributions to Rural Friends of Electric Cooperatives (Rural Friends) and the Action Committee for Rural Electrification (ACRE) are not tax deductible. Contributions to Rural Friends and ACRE are voluntary and will be used for political purposes. You have the right to refuse to contribute without reprisal. Any contribution guidelines presented are merely suggestions. You are free to contribute more or less than the suggested amounts, or not at all. No one will be favored or disadvantaged by reason of the amount contributed or a decision not to contribute.

Please remit to: **Rural Friends, 1122 Colorado St., 24th Floor, Austin, TX 78701.**

2022 TEC/TREWA Annual Meeting Silent Auction & Craft Donation Form

YES! I will donate a Craft/Art Item

Name _____

City, State, Zip _____

Item Donated _____

Item Value _____

If you are unable to attend the meeting, please designate someone to bring your item for you. _____

To send a craft item or make a donation to TREWA, please mail it to:
Bobbi Byford, Trinity Valley EC
PO Box 888, Kaufman, TX 75142

You can also give your craft or silent auction item to any TREWA board member. Again, thank you for your continued support.

Your donated items will help provide funds for TREWA scholarships and donations to Rural Friends/ACRE.

2022 TREWA Board of Directors

Group 1

Dana Massey
 Arts & Crafts
 Sam Houston EC
 (936) 328-1279
 dmassey@samhouston.net



Group 2

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 Scholarship Chair
 HILCO EC
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Group 3

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 rford@ceca.coop



Group 5

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Group 6

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 (830) 868-6081
 celeste.mikeska@peci.com



Group 7

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 Wharton County ECI
 (979) 543-6271
 brodriguez@myecec.coop



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 Past President
 Lamb County EC
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 kshipp@lcecc.coop



Bobbi Byford
 Social Media/
 Lamplighter
 Trinity Valley EC
 (469) 261-9876
 bobbi@tvec.coop



“Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.”

- Henry Ford

TREWA MEMBERSHIP

Current memberships expire July 31, 2022.

TREWA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership valid August 1, 2022, through July 31, 2023.

Membership: Renewal New Member

Membership Fees

Please check the appropriate dues assessments:

\$10 (1 year) \$20 (2 years)

First name _____

Last name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

Home phone _____

Work phone _____

Email _____

Cooperative (spell out) _____

Relationship to cooperative:

- Employee Director Member
 Spouse of Employee Spouse of Director Other

Return to:

Mail: TREWA Membership
 TEC Lockbox
 P.O. Box 201338
 Dallas, TX 75320

Email: knejtek@tex-ec.org



The TREWA Board of Directors thanks you for your continued support of this organization.

TREWA membership is open to men and women of rural electric cooperatives. We encourage you to become a part of our growing organization as we continue to light the lamp of knowledge for the future.

Membership has its privileges. The children of TREWA members are eligible to apply for scholarships sponsored by TREWA. Members also receive an edition of The Lamplighter, which is sent twice a year via email.

Regular membership price is \$10 per year and, to date, we have almost 1,000 members. Once again, TREWA is offering membership at \$5 per person to cooperatives that enroll 100 percent of their directors, directors' spouses and employees (or spouse of an employee).

Renew your membership today by completing and returning the form at right. TREWA membership forms are also available at trewa.org.