



POWER-GRAM

February
2019

Cloudfcroft
575-682-2521
Alto
575-336-4550
Carrizozo
575-648-2352

www.ocec-inc.com

LOBBY HOURS
8 AM - 4 PM
Monday - Friday

**TO REPORT AN
OUTAGE, CALL**
1-800-548-4660

**FOR BALANCE
INFORMATION
OR TO PAY YOUR
BILL, CALL**
1-844-846-2695

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A Monthly Newsletter for Members of

**OTERO COUNTY ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE, INC.**

LEFT: Mid 1950's Board of Trustees, from L to R: unknown, Roger Mayfield, Jack Vickers, Jack Hobson, W.A. Gage, unknown, George Sisneros and J.B Runyan.

Payment Kiosks

OCEC provides payments kiosks in various locations to offer another easy and convenient way for members to pay their bill, even after business hours and on the weekend.

Kiosks recently had a software enhancement and members who use this option to pay their bill may notice some changes.

To use a kiosk, simply touch the screen to begin. You will be prompted to enter the following information:

1. **Account Number**—available on your bill
2. **Complete Last Name**—as it appears on your bill
3. **Phone Number**—this information was not previously required
4. **Payment Type**—cash, check or card payments accepted, then follow the on-screen instructions for the payment type selected.

Another new feature of the software is FastPass. FastPass is an expedited payment option where users create an account that allows them to gain access to their electric account quickly. Members can then access their account information by simply scanning the barcode printed on their bill or by entering a phone number and 4-digit PIN.

For your convenience, kiosks are located at the following sites:

Mescalero

Tribal Store—190 Chiricahua Plaza
MATI Office—75 Carrizo Canyon Road

Capitan

Smokey's Country Market—113 Smokey Bear Blvd.

Tularosa

Tularosa Travel Center—21 St. Francis Dr.

Cloudfcroft

OCEC Headquarters—404 Burro Avenue



Each year, OCEC's Electric Education Foundation awards thousands of dollars in scholarships to deserving students to continue their education at a New Mexico university, college or technical school. To be eligible, the student must be an active member receiving service from Otero County Electric.

Applications are available now at any OCEC office, from our website, www.ocec-inc.com, or from your school guidance counselor.

Don't wait, deadline to apply is March 15.



**OCEC Offices will be Closed
Monday, February 18, 2019**

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP

Dry towels and heavier cottons separately from lighter-weight clothing. You'll spend less time running the dryer for lighter-weight items, which saves energy.

Source: energy.gov

Pole Inspection Contractor in Service Area

It is essential for Otero County Electric Cooperative to maintain the safety and reliability of its electrical system. One of the ways OCEC works to accomplish this is by doing regular pole inspections. An outside contractor, Power Pole Inspections, Inc., has been hired to test mechanical integrity of poles and visually inspect the overhead facilities within the service territory.

OCEC wants members to be aware that you may see vehicles, ATVs and crew members from this company out and about doing their job. Vehicles will be marked with both the Power Pole Inspections, Inc. emblem and the OCEC logo. Inspections will be taking place along Hwy. 70 around the Apache Summit and Cow Camp area of Mescalero, as well as in Alto.

ATTENTION LiHEAP Eligible Members: Notice of End of Winter Moratorium

Protection from winter shut-off ends **March 15, 2019**. To avoid potential disconnection of services, please contact OCEC at 800-548-4660 to make arrangements for payment.

Members of New Mexico tribes or pueblos who need help with translation or with other matters may contact the commission's consumer relations division at 888-427-5772, who will contact the appropriate tribal or pueblo official for assistance. Para informacion en espanol llame 800-548-4660.

Appliance Upgrade in Your Future?

OCEC's Energy Efficiency Program offers rebates to members who purchase new ENERGY STAR® appliances. For more information, visit

www.ocec-inc.com.



Vegetation Management Update

Crews working to trim trees and vegetation in rights-of-way are currently working in the following areas and are expected to remain there for the next few weeks

- South of Alamogordo
- Haynes Canyon
- La Luz
- Tularosa
- San Patricio

OCEC reminds members that you may see vehicles, ATVs and crew members from Rogers Tree Service trimming and cutting trees near existing power lines. Vehicles will be marked with their company name, as well as on OCEC logo.

Feel free to call with questions—1-800-548-4660.

February Employment Anniversaries

Mary Jo Cook—Accounting Clerk—3 years

Leah Freeman—Billing Assistant—5 years

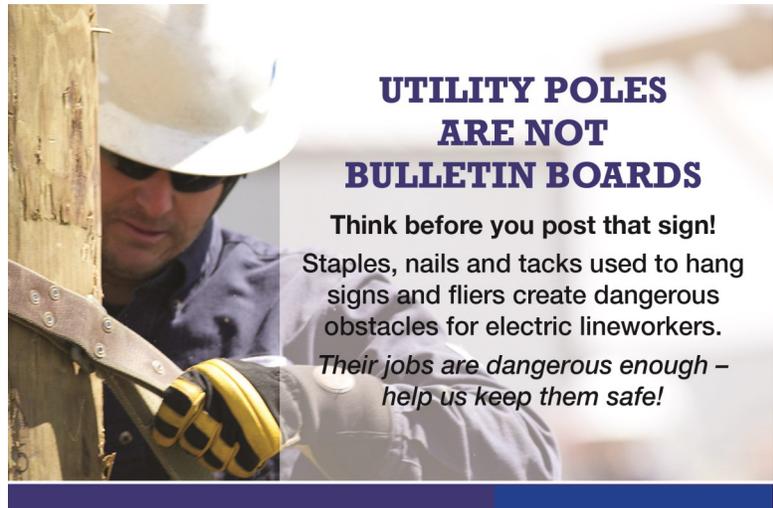
Daimhin Kelley—Crew Chief—12 years

Damon Marez—Information Tech Manager—15 years

Jeff McGarvey—Equipment Operator—32 years

Leslie Samora—MSR Supervisor—16 years

Debbie Zintak—Meter Reader/Collector—11 years

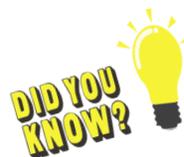


UTILITY POLES ARE NOT BULLETIN BOARDS

Think before you post that sign!

Staples, nails and tacks used to hang signs and fliers create dangerous obstacles for electric lineworkers.

Their jobs are dangerous enough – help us keep them safe!



OCEC first installed a computer to be used for billing, payroll, capital credits and material inventory in May 1978. The system was a Hewlett Packard 1000 with 64,000 words of main memory and 50,000,000 bytes (50 MB) of disc memory. Most of us carry a cell phone today that is more powerful than this computer!