



POWER

Source

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Somehow it just isn't the same – reading about something in a book or actually seeing it first-hand, living it. This is the feeling our Government In Action Youth Tour delegates express when they return from their trip to our nation's capital, Washington, D.C.

This year was no exception. Timia Northcutt, representing Grady High School, Colton "Cole" Rohrbach, representing Texico High School, and Krista Baltes, representing Fort Sumner High School, recently returned from their Youth Tour trip sponsored by Farmers' Electric Co-op and other electric cooperatives throughout the state and across the nation. All three young people expressed gratitude for the opportunity to participate in this year's tour and spoke fondly of the memories they will carry with them the rest of their lives.



National Cathedral

While most average high school seniors-to-be spent their summer vacations sleeping late, watching entirely too much T.V., swimming, or maybe even working, Krista, Cole, and Timia enjoyed a 7 day trip to Washington, D.C. with approximately 35 of New Mexico's best and brightest young people.

While in Washington, the tour included numerous presidential and war memorials, the National Cathedral, Ford's Theater, Mount Vernon, Arlington National Cemetery, the Smithsonian Institution, the Holocaust Museum, meetings with the New Mexico Congressional delegation, and many other fun and exciting things.

Timia was really taken in by the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. "The Basilica was very elegant and immense. Each room had its unique theme with beautiful colors that covered the walls and ceil-

ing," said a very impressed Timia. Arlington National Cemetery was equally impressive to Timia. "I wasn't expecting so many tombstones. The number of people who have died in the service of the U.S. was overwhelming and humbling."

Cole was was equally impressed with the trip. "It was one of the coolest things I have ever done and definitely the highlight of my summer. The friends and memories I made will last a lifetime." Cole recalled how the trip educated him about Co-ops and their role in society. "While I was in Washington, I also learned the importance of cooperatives. On the first night, we attended a short workshop with Louisiana and Georgia delegates. There, we learned how co-ops worked, learned the ideals that co-ops embrace, and even got to perform skits that demonstrated the importance of co-ops."

Krista was given the honor of participating in a very special ceremony. "The most memorable moment for myself was being selected to be part of the Laying of the Wreath Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Being young, I had never given much thought to how much sacrifice our armed forces have given and continue to give. Participat-



Laying of the Wreath

ing in this solemn ceremony and realizing how much some people have given up in order for me and others to have the opportunities we have, was life changing." Krista, expressed, in a very mature and thought provoking way, her new-found understanding of true sacrifice. "Whatever your beliefs are, or whatever opinions you may have, understanding that someone's parent, sibling, grandparent or family member gave their life in order for (you) me to have the opportunity to

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Manager's Message...**Lance Adkins, GM**

A Brief History

At the conclusion of the Farmers' Electric Cooperative (FEC) Annual Meeting in May, there were several individuals who came up to tell me how much they appreciated hearing historical information about the origins and first years of FEC. As FEC continues to celebrate our 80th year of operation, I thought the readership may enjoy a few of these facts as well.

FEC was organized as Farmers Electric Membership Corporation at a meeting held at the Curry County Courthouse on December 20, 1937. FEC was the second electric cooperative organized in New Mexico, with Central Valley Electric, Artesia, NM, organized in June 1937, being the first. Minutes of that organizational meeting reflect the meeting was chaired by A.W. Hockenhull, with County Agent C.J. Todd and Carl C. Cox explaining the purpose of the meeting. During recess, one hundred fifteen memberships were collected, \$5 per membership, to demonstrate to the Rural Electrification Administration (REA) that there was sufficient need and interest in forming an electric cooperative.

When the meeting resumed, the members were divided into groups to nominate seven directors with folks from Clovis, Center, and Blacktower areas placed in one group, electing Oscar Willmon as Director; folks from Pleasant Hill and Claud areas elected O.E. Pattison as Director; Hol-lene, Ruth, and Bellview areas elected P.B. Hartley as Director; Broadview, Grady, and Boney areas elected Earl Allen as Director; Melrose, St. Vrain, Ranchvale and Field areas elected Emmet Davis as Director; folks from Quay County elected Luther Hudson and Jim Jordan as Directors. After the organizational meeting, the newly minted Directors called their first Board meeting for 1:30 that afternoon in the Curry County Agent's office.

Directors first order of business was to select officers, with Oscar Willmon selected to serve as Chairman; Jim Jordan as Vice-Chairman; and O.E. Pattison Secretary and temporary Treasurer. Further, A.W. Hockenhull was selected as Attorney for the Project and Carl C. Cox selected as Project Engineer. In addition, there were three applicants for Project Superintendent, Bert Reynolds and Oliver Kimbrough of Clovis and Grady Pierce of Texico. Oliver Kimbrough was selected as temporary Project Superintendent, pending approval of the REA, at a salary of \$135 per month plus five-cents per mile (limited to \$30 per month). Mr. Kimbrough was instructed to make arrangements for office space, procure equipment, to receive all records and correspondence concerning the Project from the County Agent's office, and was authorized to hire a bookkeeper at a salary of \$70 per month.

It is interesting to note, A.W. Hockenhull served as Governor of New Mexico from 1933 to 1935, following the death of Governor Arthur Seligman. Historical records

*FEC's first headquarters building - Photo circa: 1950*

Board of Trustees:
Mike West
President
George Dodge
Vice President
Donnie Bidegain
Secretary-Treasurer
Paul Quintana
Trustee
Pat Woods
Trustee
Billy Tate
Trustee
Ernest Riley
Trustee

General Manager:
Lance R. Adkins

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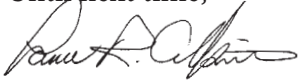
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HISTORY from PAGE 2

note A.W. Hockenull moved to the New Mexico Territory in 1908, homesteading near Tucumcari. Completing the remaining term as Governor, Mr. Hockenull returned to Clovis and continued his law career. Mr. Oliver Kimbrough would go on to serve as FEC's first General Manager, serving until his passing in December 1956. Many of the original members of the Board still have family members living in the FEC service area.

Until next time,





During summer months, our homes can be extremely hot, making living conditions uncomfortable at times. But while you're putting your air conditioner to work, try adding a ceiling fan into the mix – fans can help you raise your thermostat setting by about 4 degrees and you will still feel more comfortable.

But remember to turn fans off in unoccupied rooms. Fans cool people, not rooms, and you're wasting energy by leaving them on if there isn't anyone in the room.

Important Notice!

NOTIFY FARMERS' ELECTRIC NOW IF OUTAGES WOULD STOP LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS

Farmers' Electric Cooperative (FEC) maintains a list of members who depend on oxygen or other life support systems. FEC maintains this list to provide priority service in case of scheduled outages or outages caused by storm damage.

It is your responsibility to inform FEC if any member of your family is dependent on a life support system.

In the event of a major outage, the cooperative will make efforts to contact these individuals to inform them of the approximate length of the outage and to inquire if they are in need of care.

If a member of your family is dependent on a life support system, please call the Clovis office at 1-575-762-4466 or 1-800-445-8541.

Summer Sizzler!

Charbroil Patio Bistro Electric Infrared Grill

Save \$50!


\$169

**While supplies last*



SWIMMING POOL SAFETY

- *Make sure that any lighting equipment in your pool is up to code and regularly examined by a professional.* To change or repair a light, ensure the electricity to the pool is first turned off at the circuit breaker.
- If you are in the water and feel electric current, which can cause a tingling sensation, shout to let others know, try to stay upright, tuck your legs up to make yourself smaller, and swim away from anything that could be energized. ***Do not use a metal ladder to exit the pool.***
- Remember, water and electricity are a dangerous mix, even outside the pool. ***Never touch any electrical appliances or outlets when you are wet or standing in water.***



TOUR from PAGE 1

do, speak, and act freely, was amazing.”

Farmers’ Electric’s goal, through our association with the Government In Action Youth Tour, is to increase the students’ understanding of government, our nation’s history, and electric cooperatives. Based on what our participants have shared with us, we believe we have accomplished this goal.

If you are a high school Junior this fall, what are your plans for next summer? Don’t just lay around counting the days until school starts, take a trip of a lifetime! We promise, it will change you forever. Watch this publication for more information on the tour or ask your guidance counselor for more details. Contest forms are usually distributed in October.

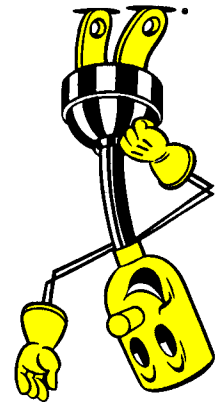


Vietnam Veterans Memorial Statue

“This opportunity has made me more appreciative of others and more respectful of the costs for my freedom.”
- Krista Baltes



“Owned By Those We Serve”



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