

CEO CORNER



Ryan Bartlett,
President / CEO

We're Thankful for Your Membership

AUTHOR WILLIAM ARTHUR WARD once said, "Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it."

In the spirit of those wise words, I'd like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for your membership in our cooperative. Because of your connection to Taylor Electric Cooperative, we're able to make our community a better place.

I typically use this space to provide updates on new projects and developments and report on the progress of ongoing initiatives. We share these updates so that our members have a window into our priorities, progress and challenges.

However, during this season of giving thanks, I think it's equally important to let you and other members of Taylor EC know the impact you have on our co-op and the greater community, likely in ways you may not even realize.

As part of the cooperative business model, one of our core principles is Concern for Community. While our priority is always to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy, we take pride in our role in the community as a catalyst for good.

We are purposeful in partnering with local charitable organizations to help those in need.

We work closely with local schools to provide safety demonstrations and award college scholarships. Taylor EC also participates in the annual Government-in-Action Youth Tour, where we take our community's brightest young people to Washington, D.C., for a weeklong immersive experience of democracy in action. The trip is inspirational for many students, and we are humbled and honored to be a part of their leadership development.

Ultimately, the larger community benefits from these programs because of you. You empower the co-op through your membership and through your participation in and support of these programs.

When you attend co-op events, alert us to problems, or provide suggestions online or to our employees, you help us improve operations and thereby better serve the membership at large.

Because we're locally governed by members of our community, we have a firsthand perspective on community priorities, better enabling us to make more informed decisions on long-term investments, such as equipment and technology upgrades.

We're thankful that our board members carve out time to attend important training sessions, participate in planning meetings and keep abreast of industry trends. This investment of time results in better informed advisers who serve the co-op's interests in a way that our members expect and deserve.

On a more personal note, we appreciate the countless acts of kindness toward our lineworkers and other employees when they're working in severe weather and dangerous conditions. Our employees are thankful for your patience and consideration when we're trying to restore power during challenging situations.

Taylor EC was originally established nearly 85 years ago to bring electricity to our area when no one else would. The co-op is a reflection of our local community and its evolving needs. Together, let's continue making our corner of the world a better place.

We can't do it without you, and for that we're thankful for your membership.

CEO CORNER



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Inspire Hope This Holiday Season

THE HOLIDAYS ARE A time for family, friends and giving. If you're looking for ways to bring more meaning to your holidays, these ideas are a great place to start.

Help out a neighbor. If you have a neighbor who needs help decorating, shopping or writing holiday cards, offer to lend a hand. This is also a great opportunity to get the whole family involved. Even young kids can pitch in to decorate—and help take the decorations down once the holidays are over.

Give gifts to teachers. Teachers work tirelessly all year long, and the holidays are the perfect time to show your thanks. Give a gift card, custom stationery, or a personalized water bottle or tote bag. Don't forget to include a handwritten note from your child expressing why they appreciate their teacher.

Invite friends to a holiday dinner. Do you know any friends, acquaintances or co-workers who live far from family? If they aren't traveling home, invite them over for a holiday dinner. If they decline your invitation, consider making a larger portion than you'll need, freezing the leftovers and dropping them by the next day.

Donate to giving trees. What's a giving tree? You might find one displayed in a grocery store, library, school or community center. A giving tree is typically decorated with wish lists from kids in the area. Pick a wish list from the tree, purchase the gift and return it to the sponsoring organization.

Volunteer. Other holiday-specific volunteer opportunities may include serving meals at a food bank or participating in a local toy drive. If you don't have the time to volunteer in person, you could sponsor a family instead. Many local organizations have holiday "adopt a family" programs, matching you with a family in need of basic necessities and gifts.

The holidays are a time filled with joy, but for some, they can be difficult. We hope that these tips inspire you to go out and make a difference in your neighbors' lives. ■

Taylor Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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(325) 793-8500. Payments credited immediately.

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NOTICE

Effective June 1, 2023, all credit/debit card transactions will be assessed a 2.45% convenience fee.

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