

# Telling the Story of Cooperatives for 75 Years



## MESSAGE FROM GENERAL MANAGER CLINT GARDNER

**IF YOUR MAILBOX IS ANYTHING LIKE MINE, IT** seems to fill up nearly every other day with unwelcome deliveries. We're bombarded with unsolicited advertisements and credit card offers, most of which go straight into the recycling bin. Then, invariably, come the bills—those sometimes unpleasant but unavoidable pieces of mail.

Sometimes, however, that mix of creased and crumpled papers includes an item we actually welcome. Perhaps this

vehicles through which Coleman County EC fulfills Cooperative Principle No. 5, Education, Training and Information. Through these pages—and online—we communicate directly with you, our members, about matters that are important for the cooperative, such as director elections and changes to our bylaws. We also share tips on maximizing the energy efficiency of your home and offer safety information that may even save your life. And as technology continues to advance at a sometimes overwhelming pace, we use this magazine to help you understand how new technologies fit into your daily life.

But the magazine offers so much more than that. It's also a key component in our efforts to enrich members' lives and uplift our communities. Were it not for this magazine, you might not be aware of all the local charitable work the co-op supports or how you, too, can lend a helping hand in our area. Through reading stories about history, nature and the outdoors, travel destinations and more, our members become more informed about our extraordinary state.

Throughout the years, *Texas Co-op Power* has connected co-op members near and far. A contest-winning recipe by a member in one part of the state has the power to bring a family together at a dinner table hundreds of miles away. A letter to the editor from a reader in the Panhandle may spur a response from another on the Gulf Coast, and a conversation begins. A feature about the work of a Southwest Texas woman to raise awareness about a serious health condition can—as we've seen—inspire others from across the state to pitch in, and a movement is formed.

Of course, through the internet, we have access to countless sources of information and ways to connect. But there's nothing quite like holding this magazine in your hands and knowing that it's made especially for you—our co-op members—and with your best interests in mind.

So, as *Texas Co-op Power* reflects on 75 years of empowering rural Texans, know that you, too, are a part of that history. And with each new issue you read, you carry the story of the magazine—and the cooperative message that it imparts—into the future.

## COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLE

### EDUCATION, TRAINING AND INFORMATION

Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperatives. They inform the general public, particularly young people and opinion leaders, about the nature and benefits of cooperation.

magazine you're reading right now is one such item—I know it is for me and the employees of Coleman County Electric Cooperative. But we're not the only ones. Since the first issue in 1944, generations of rural electric cooperative members have found value within the pages of *Texas Co-op Power*. And this month, as the magazine celebrates its 75th anniversary, I invite you to join me in recognizing the invaluable role it has played as a trusted voice for Texas electric cooperatives.

Every month, *Texas Co-op Power* is delivered to your mailbox to entertain, enlighten and, most importantly, educate you and your family. In fact, this magazine is one of the primary

# Small Change That Changes Lives

**COLEMAN COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE WILL IMPLEMENT OPERATION ROUND UP, A** community assistance program, August 28. The program aims to bolster the foundation on which electric cooperatives were built more than 80 years ago—that of neighbors helping neighbors. It’s one way we’re putting the cooperative principle of Concern for Community into action.

Operation Round Up provides members the opportunity for their small change to change lives in big ways. It’s a simple and rewarding program that raises money for local charities and service organizations as well as individuals in need.

## How Is the Program Funded?

To fund Operation Round Up, the cooperative will round up to the next whole dollar each member’s monthly electric bill—unless the member chooses not to participate. For example, if a member’s bill is \$46.54, it will be rounded up to \$47.00, and the extra 46 cents will be contributed to the Operation Round Up fund. The average annual contribution will be about \$6 per year. Your monthly billing statement will show how much is being contributed to Operation Round Up.

The mission statement of CCEC’s Operation Round Up allows donations to be used for food, clothing, shelter, equipment and medical needs.

Visit [colemanelectric.org/content/coming-soon-operation-round](http://colemanelectric.org/content/coming-soon-operation-round) to learn more.

**Please detach the below form and return to CCEC if you would like to opt out of Operation Round Up.**

### CCEC Operation Round Up Opt Out

I am not interested in participating in Operation Round Up.



**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ACCOUNT NUMBER(S):** \_\_\_\_\_

**BILLING ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY, STATE, ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**HOME PHONE AND ALTERNATE PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return to:**

Coleman County Electric Cooperative  
P.O. Box 860  
Coleman, TX 76834



## Coleman County Electric Cooperative

3300 N. Highway 84 • P.O. Box 860  
Coleman, TX 76834

*Operating in Brown, Callahan, Coke, Coleman, Concho, Runnels, Taylor and Tom Green counties*

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Clint Gardner

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## Contact Us

### CALL US AT

**(325) 625-2128** local

**1-800-560-2128** toll-free

### AFTER-HOURS EMERGENCY

**1-800-560-2128** toll-free

### FIND US ON THE WEB

[colemanelectric.org](http://colemanelectric.org)



TOM WANG | ISTOCK.COM

## Power Tip

When temperatures rise, there are things you can do to save energy and trim your electric bill. Raise your thermostat a couple of degrees—78 is the most efficient setting.