

Electric Vehicles gain momentum

The appeal of electric vehicles is gaining momentum. EVs are dominating the automotive news. While many drawbacks of EVs are gone, there is still a major concern limiting EV growth dubbed “range anxiety.” This stems from the persistent limited range of all EVs.

Fortunately, advances in battery technology are hammering away at the range issue. Range is steadily expanding and battery management systems are squeezing out more miles.

Range anxiety notwithstanding, EVs have a bright future. Prices are dropping and range is expanding so owners can confidently drive nearly everywhere with a little bit of planning.

Further, if you’ve never driven an electric vehicle, you are in for a treat. While an internal combustion engine must rev up to speed, an EV has full power at its disposal instantly. Of course, there are limits on this 0-60 mph capability to prevent inexperienced and over-eager drivers from launching themselves into accidents and speeding tickets. They are quiet, well-appointed inside and allow you to forever bypass the lines at the gas station—unless you are in need of some snacks and a slushy.

One final word, if you do purchase an EV, be sure to let Southwest Rural Electric know.

The service to your home is sized to meet the demands of your house as they existed when service was connected. Adding the EV charger creates a risk of overloading the wires and transformers powering your home. Overloaded services can fail and leave you in the dark with an uncharged EV. Furthermore, SWRE can help you install a charger at your house. Call us today for more information!

Here’s to gliding silently—and cleanly—on our travels.



Check out our Facebook page for more information on EVs!

Education, Training and Information.

Education and training for members, elected representatives and employees helps effectively contribute to the development of the cooperative.



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Southwest Rural Electric

P.O. Box 310
700 North Broadway
Tipton, OK 73570-0310
1-800-256-7973

Haley Hoover, *SWRE News* editor

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EV's and technology changes impacting our industry

Those of you who attended our annual meeting may remember the mention of changing technologies and the rapid pace of their impact on the utility industry.

The truth is, everything is becoming increasingly more efficient. The light bulbs used 10 years ago would burn for 1 to 2000 hours. Today's LED bulbs burn up to 50,000 hours and use a third of the electricity. Cell phones are another example. In less than 10 years we've gone from analog flip-phones to 4G smartphones and are now moving towards 5G capabilities.

Vehicles, just a few years ago averaged 10-15 mpg, whereas most now average near 30 mpg. You may think that these rapid shifts in technology are new, but they're really not. In just 13 years, the entire horse and buggy industry was replaced by gas-powered automobiles. The rapid change and adoption of new technologies is not new, however, today it effects virtually every aspect of our lives.

Along with other changing technologies, electric vehicles (EVs) are quickly infiltrating our day-to-day lives. You may think that's a long way in the future or that it is just for city folks who drive small cars. You may also think that EVs will never work in rural America because we need our trucks. A couple of years ago I would have agreed, but not anymore. Ford has released a fully-electric F-150 with plans to move into production by 2020. Additionally, John Deere has unveiled an all-electric tractor prototype.

The transition from combustion engine to EV may come just as rapidly as the transition from the horse and buggy to the combustion engine. Several motor companies are converting to an all-electric fleet. By 2025 Volvo will not produce a single gas-powered vehicle and that includes semi-trucks. In fact, UPS has already ordered 125 Tesla semi-trucks for their fleet. Jim Bruce, the senior vice president says UPS will save over \$200,000 in fuel over a two-year period by going electric.

We're not just talking about EVs, we're talking about a lot of different types of alternative energy sources that will impact our cooperative in the near future. It is important to know that world-wide changes in the electric industry will have a trickle-down effect in your local cooperative. I say this to let you--the members, know that your co-op, employees and board members are not only interested in meeting your needs by keeping the lights on, but we also want to be your trusted source for modern technology and the ever-changing electric industry. As always, if you have any questions or concerns about this or any other cooperative business, know that we are always available for those inquiries.

-- Ken Simmons

SWRE wants you to be cyber-secure

Technology breaches—think customer credit card data being stolen from Target, or consumer data being stolen from Experian—have become more commonplace, ushering in a new reality of increased security measures and constant monitoring of organizational and personal data to ensure our identities, credit card numbers or bank accounts have not been compromised.

This new reality has made many realize that keeping systems secure is not solely the responsibility of information technology employees. Rather, it is incumbent on every individual to do their part to keep critical personal and our organization's data safe from potential breaches.

It can seem a little overwhelming at times, and the idea that the next threat is always lurking around the corner can be stressful. But there are things you can do to protect your personal data, along with SWRE's data.

Keep your defenses up!

- Make sure all your computer software—including your web browser—are updated with the latest software. Keeping software up-to-date ensures security patches being

deployed by our security team can succeed in blocking security threats.

- Create a strong password and keep it private—it could take up to two centuries to crack a password consisting of 12 characters or more!
- Treat all Wi-Fi networks as a potential security risk. Encrypt sensitive data when using a public Wi-Fi network. And never check financial or other sensitive accounts when using public Wi-Fi.

Don't Fall for a Phish!

- Be on the lookout for emails, phone calls and other messages that try to get to secure data. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. If something seems off, trust your instinct and convey your concerns to a manager or member of the security team.

- Don't click on links or attached files in emails or text messages from senders you don't know. Even if you do know the sender, hover over the link before you click as they may have been hacked or someone could be spoofing them! There are many ways to spot a phish, and you can visit www.staysafeonline.org to see them all.

Co-ops are working together.

Electric co-ops—with the Department of Energy and NRECA—are working together, through the RC3 Program, to better protect us from security threats. From the smallest co-op with limited access to technology staff to the largest co-op with greater resources, NRECA and America's electric cooperatives are creating a co-op network that fosters a culture of cybersecurity.

Whether keeping your data safe at home, at the co-op or on the go, remember: you are the first line of defense against cyber security threats!

If you would like to learn more about cybersecurity from one of our on-site experts please contact our office. Our team will be visiting area civic clubs this month to help promote cyber-security in our territory.



@SWRE_coop, #cybersecurity

Johnnie's Favorite Coleslaw Recipe



Ingredients:

1 Package Shredded Cabbage
1/2 cup of Chopped Green Pepper & Celery
1/2 Sweet Onion (chopped) or purple onion
1 Cup Shredded Carrots

DRESSING:

1/2 Cup Sugar
1 tsp Salt
3/4 Cup Vegetable Oil
1 tsp Dry Mustard
1 tsp Celery Seed
1/4 tsp Fresh Ground Black Pepper
3/4 Cup White Vinegar

Instructions:

In large bowl, combine coleslaw, bell pepper, celery, onion and carrots. In a saucepan over medium heat, combine remaining ingredients; bring to a boil. Simmer, stirring, until sugar is dissolved; pour over coleslaw little at a time, toss well.

Cover and refrigerate until thoroughly chilled.

Slaw goes great on top of a pulled-pork sandwich. Can stay fresh in a refrigerator for up to one month if in a plastic bowl with a lid.

SWRE Trading Post

FREE classified non-commercial ads available for SWRE members only. Ads also posted at www.swre.com. Mail ads to Haley Hoover at P.O. Box 310 Tipton, OK 73570, email to haleyhoover@swre.com or call 1-800-256-7973.

For Sale: Young Guinea Chicks, \$3 each. Call 580-471-8055.

For Sale: Jack Russell Puppies. Vet checked, first shots, wormed. Located in Blair. 580-301-0253 please no texts.

For Sale: 20-22 mo. Old Polled Hereford Bulls, also 12-24 mo. Angus Bulls. Call 940-852-5181 or 940-839-5551.

For Sale: 1968 Cub Cadet 124, 42" mower deck, good tires, good condition, used very little, includes bulldozer blade and almost new very heavy compost grinder used 2 times. Also selling a 1973 Cub Cadet 1650 hydrostat, 50" mower deck with new blades, needs tires and engine work. Call 580-482-5722.

For Sale: 1987 Cadillac Deville Sedan. One owner, about 110,000 miles. Needs new radiator. Has a fairly new battery. Make offer. Located near Altus. 580-563-2802

For Sale: Certified seed wheat. Bentley, SY Rugged, & Iba in bulk. OK Seed License 08005320. Call 580-482-4607 or 580-465-0564.

For Sale: Flatbed cotton trailers; some need new flooring, one is 20 foot long with very good floor. Most have good tires. Several are full metal flooring with metal sides approximately 12 inches. For more information and pricing please contact 972-814-9842.

For Sale: 1997 New Vision by Sportsman Camper/RV, 31-ft fifth wheel with one slide out. Excellent condition, hasn't been used in several years. \$7500 OBO. Located in Vernon, TX. Call 940-473-1200.

For Sale: Goat herd dispersal. Fifteen Boer nannies for sale. Product of ten year 4-H/FFA breeding show project. Very fancy. \$350 a piece for a dozen or more. 580-512-7899.

For Sale: 3 Registered Red Angus bulls for sale. 2 two year old & 1 (16) month old available. Fertility & Trich test available. All 3 are virgin bulls. Please contact Meredith Wright at 940-839-5467.



Southwest Rural Electric Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 310, Tipton, Ok. 73570-0310