



Pictured L to R: Shawn Rosalez, Robert Rosalez and Frank Ramirez.

Employees of Bonewitz Farms.

National Ag Appreciation Month

Each year in March, the Agriculture Council of America hosts National Ag Day. This year the date falls on March 14th. SWRE believes this is a great time to pause and reflect on the many contributions made by Texhoma farmers.

With each U.S. farmer feeding an average of about 165 people in exchange for a modest financial reward and, frequently, a lack of recognition, let's take a moment to honor the hard work they do for our country's benefit and that of others around the world. Agriculture is America's No. 1 export, a vitally important contributor to sustaining a healthy economy, and these stewards of our nation's bounty deserve our gratitude and support.

To show our respects, we at SWRE

went straight to the source for reasons why the ag industry should be appreciated.

Harvey Schroeder of Frederick, says agriculture is of the most importance to Oklahoma because "it is the second highest income generation for the state, behind oil and gas. Oklahoma is #3 in the nation for cotton production and cattle and wheat production is high also. People don't realize how few of farmers are producing the variety of crops in our state today – these farmers need to be appreciated." Schroeder is the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Cotton Council.

Wilbarger County farmer, Kenneth Lehman seems to have similar sentiments about Texas agriculture. "People should support our farmers by buying American products. Ag is probably the most important part of

our state's economy." said Lehman.

National Ag Day coincides with the beginning of cotton, corn, sorghum and soybean planting season for many Texhoma farmers. Think of the wide variety of commodities and products those crops alone make possible—clothing and other textiles, animal feed, renewable fuels such as ethanol and many convenience food products.

This month as you are driving by fields of green wheat, pastures of fat cattle and miles of agricultural land, be sure and take a moment to appreciate the hard-working business behind the scenery. Each field is carefully maintained by a hard-working farmer who most certainly could use two simple words: "thank-you."



Manager/CEO, Ken Simmons

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Southwest Rural Electric

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Haley Hoover, *SWRE News* editor

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SWRE Celebrates Ag Appreciation Month

We at Southwest Rural Electric are so honored to be able to serve all of our members, and with this month being National Agriculture Appreciation month, we feel especially honored to recognize our agriculture members. From our very beginning, we were founded by you and for you. Without our ag community, we wouldn't be here.

From turning on the lights to the barn so our members could enjoy electric milk machines to powering the smart homes now on the family homestead, SWRE is proud to say we've been with your family every step of the way.

Because of our long-standing relationship with our members, we want to take extra care in communicating the upcoming necessary changes with regard to billing dates. As you will read on the next page, SWRE will be going from three billing cycles to one cycle beginning May 1, 2019. This is simply to streamline our internal processes and create coherency by getting all members on to one single cycle.

This change is one of the necessary progressions our co-op is making towards the implementation of modern technology. Years ago, SWRE sent workers (meter-readers) out into the communities to physically read each meter on the system. As you can imagine, this required an enormous amount of time and labor, so three billing cycles were needed to get the job done.

Today, SWRE reads meters electronically, thus using a much more efficient system, requiring less time and less dollars than reading meters manually. With this improvement, we no longer need the extra office labor to bill three individual cycles of members. We can easily and effectively bill all members at the same time. This increases efficiency across all fronts.

We hope that you'll understand the necessary changes our cooperative needs to make in order to move forward in delivering safety, service and satisfaction, one member at a time. Please, don't hesitate to come by or give us a call if you have any questions concerning the upcoming cycle changes.

Manager/CEO, Ken Simmons



@swre_coop

New Billing dates for SWRE members!

SWRE members should look for a change in billing dates beginning May 1, 2019. Southwest Rural Electric will be moving from three separate billing cycles to one singular cycle. This is to increase the efficiency of our internal systems as well as to increase clarity for our members.

Presently, members may receive bills on the 5th, 15th or 25th. Due dates differ for each of the billing dates listed. However, **beginning May 1, 2019, all members will be billed on the 8th of each month and all bills will be due on the 1st of the following month.**

Additionally, all auto-drafts will now be taken out on the 25th of the billed month. Note: please contact us if you prefer a different date for auto-drafting.

In the past, when meters were read manually, three billing cycles were needed in order to get all of the work done in a timely manner. Today SWRE meters are read electronically, which is far more efficient and requires less time. However, our billing department is still doing three times the work, creating bills and collecting payments three different times a month. This change will streamline the process and enhance the overall efficiency of our internal systems.

We hope you'll welcome this positive change in our co-op, and that you'll understand the reasoning for this necessary implementation. Remember that all bills may be paid online at swre.com, through the SWRE app which is available for free download in the Apple and Android stores, or by calling our automated line at 1-855-980-6821.

If you have any questions about the change in billing, please give our staff a call at 1-800-256-7973.

We'd love to chat with you.



What is my current billing cycle?

Cycle 1

Current billing date: 5th
Current due date: 25th

Cycle 2

Current billing date: 15th
Current due date: 5th

Cycle 3

Current billing date: 25th
Current due date: 15th

NEW BILLING CYCLE:

Bills Mailed:

8th of each month

Payments Due:

1st of following month

Auto-drafts paid:

25th of billing month

New dates begin May 1, 2019

Twice Baked Potato Casserole



Ingredients:

7 medium red potatoes - baked	2 cups mozzarella cheese, shredded
1/4 tsp salt and pepper	2 cups cheddar cheese shredded
1 lb. bacon, cooked and crumbled	3 green onions, sliced
3 cups sour cream	

Instructions:

1. Cut baked potatoes into 1 inch cubes. Place half in greased 13 x 9 baking dish.
2. Sprinkle with half the salt, pepper and bacon.
3. Top with half the sour cream and the cheeses, repeat layers.
4. Bake uncovered at 350 degrees for 20-25 minutes or until cheeses are melted. Sprinkle with sliced onion.

 For the full recipe, visit our Pinterest page!

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: 14 foot camper, fully contained. Good condition. Call 580-687-4477.

For Sale: Banens pig/goat/sheep trailer for sale. Trailer is equipped with 6 stalls, rubber floor mat, tack room on front, sliding door and swing door, and loading ramp. Trailer was sanded down to metal and painted white several years ago, it is barn kept. Front hitch has room for a generator. \$10,000 (940) 887-9119.

For Sale: Angus Bulls, Bred and yearling heifers, AI sires. McPhail Angus. Snyder, OK. Call 580-480-5131.

For Sale: Mesquite Firewood \$65 a rick. Pick up south of Snyder. Call 580-447-3065.

For Sale: Double pedestal dining table with 2 arm chairs and 4 side chairs. With leaf, 6 feet long and approximately 3 feet wide. \$350 OBO. Call 580-569-4550.

For Sale: Oreck vacuum cleaner, very well maintained and works well. Has a new beater bar. Vacuum is from a smoke free/pet free home. Comes with 11 disposable bags and two belts. \$175.00 940-886-6529.

For Sale: Used fencing wood posts. 6-8 feet long, varied diameters; corner & insulators. Text/call 940-631-2568

FREE to a good home: 2-year-old Rottweiler dog. Hates chickens but loved kids. Very friendly - will lick you to death! Call 580-563-2289.

For Sale: PS016510S Spicer large truck transmission. 750 miles since rebuilt. Excellent condition. Fits Cat, Cummins & Detroit. Phone: (580)480-5452 (cell) or (580)639-2341.

For Sale: Registered Polled Hereford Bulls and commercial Angus Bulls. 16-20 months old. Call 940-852-5181 or 940-839-5551.

For Sale: 2003 Keystone Hornet camper trailer. 31 foot with a 3x12 slide-out. Call (580) 318-4812.



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