



Southwest Rural Electric Association, Inc.

# POWER SOURCE

*A Supplement to Oklahoma Living*

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## GO GREEN WITH COMMUNITY SOLAR

Solar power has become increasingly popular in the last few years and many of our members have expressed interest in installing solar panels on their property. What if we told you there was an easier way to “go green?”

That’s right! By participating in SWRE’s Community Solar Program, you get the benefits of solar power without the expense of installing, maintaining or insuring panels on your property.

SWRE has two Community Solar Farms located in Frederick (Highway 183 & Airport Road) and Vernon (Center Drive near the Madison Crossing Apartments). Members can purchase a share (equal to one panel) for \$350 in quantities of 1-25. After the shares are purchased, participating members will receive a credit on their monthly SWRE bill based on their portion of the field’s production.

SWRE has approximately 1,340 shares available for purchase. The contract period for Community Solar is 25 years. Participants do not own any of the panels or infrastructure. For more information about the Community Solar Program, contact Member Services at 1-800-256-7973.

CO-OP PRINCIPLE #7

CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY

## CEO's Message



CEO, Jeff Simpson

### Board of Trustees

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### Southwest Rural Electric

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1-800-256-7973

Rebecca Chambless, *Power Source* editor

SWRE *Power Source* is published monthly for distribution to members of Southwest Rural Electric Association.

SWRE is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

### Bill Pay Options:

SmartHub App  
[SWRE.com](http://SWRE.com)

833-890-9510, *Automated Bill-Pay Line*

### Outage Reports:

833-590-0353  
SmartHub App

# OCTOBER IS NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH

As an electric cooperative, our top priority is always to provide reliable, affordable energy to you, the members we serve. Because we are a co-op, our mission is to enrich the lives of our members and serve the long-term interests of our local community—and this mission has never been more critical than in recent months. One of the seven principles that guides all co-ops is “concern for community.” To me, this principle is the essential DNA of Southwest Rural Electric, and it sets us apart from other electric utilities.

October is National Co-op Month, and electric cooperatives across the country are highlighting the many ways we “Power On.” Keeping this theme in mind, I recognize the essential role we play in serving a special community like ours.

Who would have fathomed in March, that the COVID-19 virus would amount to a test of our community and our nation? The changing circumstances due to the pandemic have created both challenges and opportunities. Over the past several months, we’ve all been challenged to operate differently, and SWRE has stepped up to help our members and strengthen the safety net for our more vulnerable neighbors.

As an essential service, and to ensure reliability of your power supply, we modified our operations to safeguard business continuity. Our line crews and other employees began working on staggered schedules to maintain separation. Some staff worked remotely. In the office, we limited and modified meetings and gatherings to allow for safe separation. We also adjusted our walk-in office availability and in-person service calls to ensure the health and safety of our employees and our valued members. In addition, we postponed the Annual Meeting to take place in 2021. For the health and safety of everyone, we think these measures were the prudent course of action for the times.

I tell you about all of these efforts not to boast about SWRE but to explain how much we care about this community—because we live here too.

We’ve seen other local businesses rising to meet similar challenges during this time, because that’s what communities do. While the challenges caused by COVID-19 have been daunting, I’m heartened to see how everyone is pulling together.

In 1937, Southwest Rural Electric was built by the community to serve the community, and that’s what we’ll continue to do – Power On.

Jeff Simpson  
CEO



## OPERATION ROUND UP GRANT APPS DUE OCT. 1

Apply online at [SWRE.com/RoundUp!](http://SWRE.com/RoundUp!)



# BON VOYAGE, BONHAM!

Southwest Rural Electric employees and board of directors celebrated Keith Bonham's retirement in August (socially distanced, of course). Bonham started working at the co-op in 1990 as a lineman and ended his career as interim CEO. He will always be part of the co-op family and will be missed at the office!



## ORU SHOOTING SPORTS FUNDRAISER: ROUND 2

Join us for the second annual Shooting Sports Fundraiser benefitting Operation Round Up, SWRE's charitable foundation!

**5-Man Team: \$400**

**Individual: \$80**

### PRICE INCLUDES:

- |                 |                        |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| 1 Round Trap    | 1 Round Sporting Clays |
| 1 Round 5-Stand | 4 Boxes of Shells      |
| Safety Glasses  | Ear Plugs & Lunch      |

### BONUS EVENT:

Flurry Shoot\* - \$10/Shooter

\*Open to all shooters, but ammunition and entry costs for the flurry shoot are not included in the registration fee. Ammunition will be available for purchase at the event.

Can't attend the event but want to donate to Operation Round Up? Consider sponsoring a local youth shooting sports team. Contact the marketing department for more sponsorship opportunities. All proceeds benefit Operation Round Up.

Register by October 19<sup>th</sup> at (580) 667-5281!

**LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE!**

## AUTHORIZED PAYMENT METHODS

Please be aware of third-party payment portals, like DOXO.com, that accept payment for your SWRE electric bills. We have been made aware that these third-party portals are targeting some co-op members on social media. **SmartHub is the only authorized payment processor used by SWRE.**

Other third-parties are not associated with or endorsed by Southwest Rural Electric. Third-party payment portals can charge high transaction fees on top of your electric bill and/or cause payments to process late, potentially creating a cut-off or late fee situation for our members.

SWRE encourages members to always make payments in one of the following ways:

**SMARTHUB:** Login at [SWRE.com](http://SWRE.com) or the SmartHub mobile app

**24/7 BILL-PAY LINE:** 1-833-890-9510

**MAIL:** P.O. Box 310, Tipton, OK 73570

**DROPBOX:** 700 N. Broadway, Tipton, OK 73570



## PUMPKIN SOUP

### DIRECTIONS:

1. In a heavy soup pot or Dutch oven over medium heat, heat oil. Add onion and garlic and cook until golden.
2. Meanwhile, halve, peel, and scrape out seeds of the pumpkin. Cut into chunks.
3. Add pumpkin chunks and broth to pot. Season with salt and pepper. Bring to a boil, uncovered, then reduce heat to a simmer. Simmer until pumpkin is fork-tender, about 30 minutes.
4. Remove pot from heat and, using an immersion blender, blend mixture until smooth. (Alternatively, let soup cool, then blend in a blender.) Stir in cream and season to taste.
5. To serve, ladle soup into bowls, add a swirl of cream, and garnish with pepper.

### INGREDIENTS:

1 tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil  
1 large onion, coarsely chopped  
4 cloves garlic, minced  
4 lb. pumpkin (any kind but preferably sugar pie)  
4 c. low-sodium chicken broth  
Kosher salt  
Freshly ground black pepper  
1/2 c. heavy cream, plus more for garnish

*Source: Find the full recipe at <https://www.delish.com/cooking/recipe-ideas/a21950863/easy-pumpkin-soup/>.*

## Trading Post

**For Sale:** Certified seed wheat. Green Hammer, Smith's Gold, SY Razor (awnless), SY Rugged, Bentley, and Iba in bulk. OK Seed License 08005320. Call 580-465-0564 or 580-482-4607.

**For Sale:** 1962 and 1963 Oklahoma State University Redskin yearbooks that are located in Ponca City. Call 580-763-7475.

**For Sale:** Guinea chicks, \$3, located west of Altus. Call 580-471-8056.

**For Sale:** Premium horse hay, OSU Midland 99 Bermuda, small bales (35-40 pounds each), \$7 each. Call 580-471-7284.

*FREE classified non-commercial ad submissions are available for SWRE members only. Ads are also posted on [SWRE.com](http://SWRE.com).*

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PHONE: (580) 667-5281



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